40p

WORLD SOCCER

The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine

NOVEMBER 1974

F.C. TWENTE ENSCHEDE OF HOLLAND

Back Row left to right: Henny Ardesch, Cees Van Ierssel, Jan Streuer, Jaap Bos, Jan Jeuring, Theo Pahlplatz, Le Cler;
middle row: Coach Anton Kohn, Frans Thijssen, Roel Brinks, Harry Brugging, Johan Zuidema, Epi Drost, assistant coach Jan Morsing;
front row: Kick Van Der Vall, Willem De Vries, Kalle Oranen, Rene Notten, Eddy Achterberg.

BURGENER Switzerland saves from CULLMANN West Germany

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WELL DONE DON!

THE emerging talents of the two unrelated Francis boys — Trevor of Birmingham City and Gerry of Queen's Park Rangers — have earned recognition by Don Revie in his first England squad. There is every indication that England's team boss, who already has done so much impressive work in his new role, will pick a side to face Czechoslovakia at Wembley which will carry on the fine work achieved in the summer under Joe Mercer.

Neither of the Francis players, both of whom have been showing encouraging form this season, may get a game. Kevin Beattie, another of the outstanding young players in England, may also have to wait his chance.

Revie will take no chances against the Czechs in what is, after all, a vital first match for him and England. It is not just another friendly and his first priority must be victory, and the two points that go with it.

Flair

One also hopes, of course, that England will show more flair and tactical intelligence under the Don than they did under the basically negative approach of Sir Alf Ramsey. But Mr. Revie cannot change players overnight.

However, he can set England off on the right road by a positive selection. He has some creative players in his squad and, although experience will be a keynote, let's hope he retains quality players like Trevor Brooking and Alec Lindsay, two who can do much to change the face of England's international team.

The team I would like to see is:

Clemence; Hughes, Todd, Watson, Lindsay; Bell, Hudson (or G. Francis), Brooking; Thomas, Clarke, Channon.

ENGLAND. — **Clemence** (Liverpool) 5 caps, aged 30; **Shilton** (Leicester) 20, 24; **Madeley** (Leeds) 16, 30; **Nish** (Derby) 5, 27; **Hughes** (Liverpool) 33, 27; **Lindsay** (Liverpool) 3, 26; **Watson** (Sunderland) 5, 27; **Beattie** (Ipswich) 0, 20; **Hunter** (Leeds) 27, 30; **Madden** (Middlesbrough) 0, 23; **Todd** (Derby) 8, 25; **Dobson** (Everton) 4, 26; **Bell** (Manchester C.) 38, 28; **G. Francis** (QPR) 0, 22; **Currie** (Sheffield U.) 6, 24; **Brooking** (West Ham) 4, 26; **Weller** (Leicester) 3, 28; **Hudson** (Stoke) 0, 24; **T. Francis** (Birmingham) 0, 20; **Clarke** (Leeds) 18, 28; **Worthington** (Leicester) 6, 24; **Thomas** (QPR) 0, 24; **Channon** (Southampton) 18, 25; **Keegan** (Liverpool) 7, 23.

England manager Don Revie and his assistant, Les Cocker, pictured in Czechoslovakia by Peter Robinson.

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Czech glories — England shou

says ERIC BATTY

Pictures by Peter Robinson

THE first game for any international team manager must always be a hit or miss affair and for Don Revie, leading England for the first time in the match against Czechoslovakia, the opposition is probably ideal. What no one must do—Revie least of all—is to fall into the trap that has caught so many in the past: reading too much into an England success. It was this trap set for the unwary that caught English commentators a year ago when in quick succession England hammered the light out of Austria 7-0 and shortly afterwards could only draw 1-1 with Poland in a match that meant elimination from the World Cup.

So we need to know—as we should have asked about Austria and Poland: how good are they?

The answer is middling; not as good as Poland, not as weak as Austria. In fact the ideal test for the new England.

Playing at Wembley will be a distinct psychological advantage for England, not only because the turf there is regarded as sacred but because despite all England's shortcomings there is still an aura about Wembley. For the Czechs it will be particularly testing because it is likely that when their team is finally chosen only one man—goalkeeper Ivo Viktor—will ever have played there before.

In previous encounters between the two sides England have a distinct edge:

1934 Czechoslovakia 2: England 1 (Prague)
1937 England 5: Czechoslovakia 4 (Tottenham)
1963 Czechoslovakia 2: England 4 ..(Bratislava)
1966 England 0: Czechoslovakia 0 (Wembley)
1970 England 1: Czechoslovakia 0 (Guadalajara, Mexico)
1973 Czechoslovakia 1: England 1 (Prague)

Realistically these results mean nothing. The first two matches were in the period when the Czechs were certainly one of the World's leading soccer nations while England were outside FIFA. The second two encounters came in a period when England were rebuilding a team based on power while the Czechs were in decline.

In the last two meetings, England had the edge in neutral Mexico but probably wouldn't have won then in Prague or Bratislava while the last match between the two sides, eighteen months ago, saw England struggle one down before gaining a draw with a goal almost at the final whistle.

Now I suggest the slate is clean again because both sides are rebuilding. England must be put in that category with a new man in charge for the first time who will field what is certainly an experimental team, while the Czechs have switched their players around so much in the last two years that probably their manager Vaclav Jezek will not pick the team (even in his own mind) until at least 48 hours before the game.

Advantage

I am one of the very few English journalist to have seen the Czechs play in 1974 and I have an added advantage in having seen most of the players in the running for places in the early season games in the 1974-75 league campaign—including the Dukla-Slovan Bratislava (Slovan being the current champions) in which 11 players took part who have been capped this year.

Anyone who doubts that the Czech national side is in the melting pot must be impressed by the following analysis. During 1973, no less than 27 players were tried in the national team. So far this year—writing before the game against Sweden—the total is 30 players in six matches. This obviously indicates that the Czechs have anything but a settled team.

It does not mean, however, that they do not have good players. In fact, at their best Karol Dobias and Ladislav Kuna are amongst the finest in Europe but they are currently out of form, suffering from over exposure to the game. And playing in a Spartak Trnava side that, while being re-built, is struggling at the wrong end of the table.

I would personally gamble on Kuna who has a heart as big as a house but Jezek, who I know has an equally high regard for him, will rightly be guided by his present form prior to the English game.

During 1974 there have been indications that Jazek is gradually putting together a useful side as their results indicate. They began with a 0-1 defeat away to East Germany and soon afterwards were in Brazil where they also lost 0-1 to an 88th minute goal.

Then came the signs of improvement with a 1-0 away win over Russia (their first ever success against the Soviets) and a 3-1 home win in Prague over East Germany. In addition they have also won 1-0 away to Bulgaria and drawn 3-3 at home with France.

Clearly the Czechs are on the upgrade, but I suggest they are not ready yet. If it was a five-a-side tournament it might be different but that is the nub of Jezek's dilemma. He has half of a good team.

The backbone of the side virtually picks itself but for the other half there is a choice of players so temperamental that they can look extraordinary one week and almost pathetic in the next match for their clubs.

The men who in my opinion are automatic choices are as follows:

Goalkeeper Viktor, very experienced with extremely safe hands and excellent on the shot. He also has a very able understudy in *Venzel* and in fact because they excel at the weaker points of the other's game it is a very close decision. Either one will do unless he has an off-day.

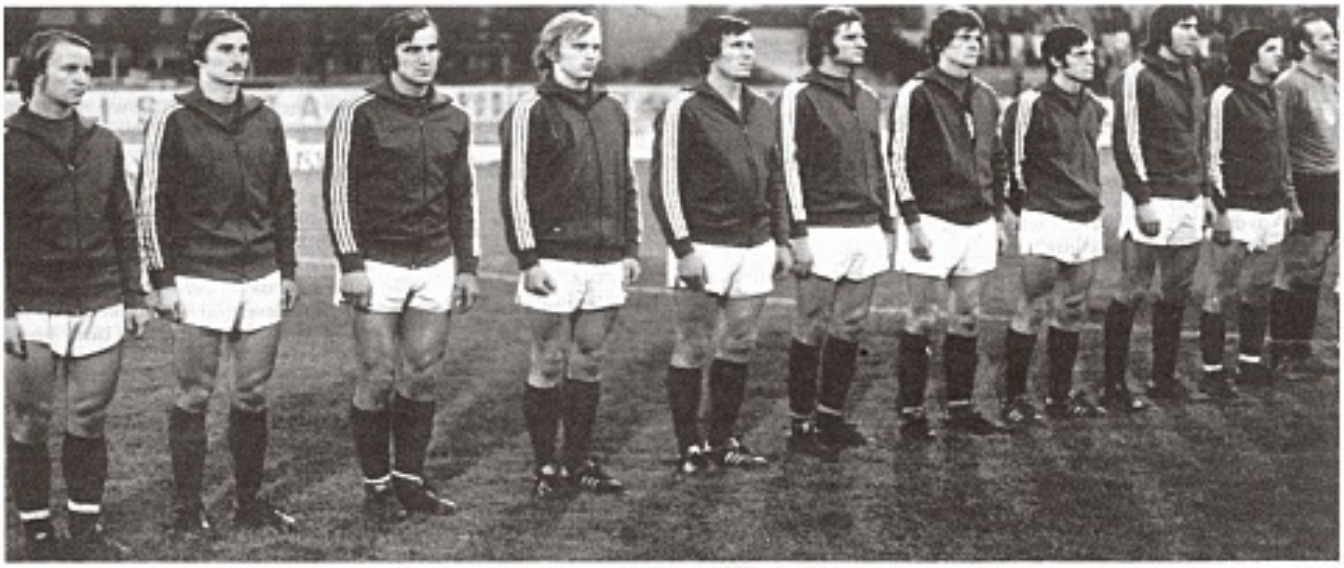
Right back Pivarnick. Strong, quick, constructive he works hard in attack as well as defence. Like most defenders has a tendency to make his final pass a lofted ball into the penalty area, but I know his Slovan boss, Jozef Venglos, and Jezek are both working on this.

Centre back Ondras came into the side early this year and stayed. A giant of a man, very good in the air, and exceptionally skilled for such a big man. Not at all like Beckenbauer, but loves to make runs upfield with the ball beating opponents. And he often scores goals with head or foot.

Bicovsky at *right half* is another certainty, an automatic choice for several seasons. An accomplished, hard-working midfield player who frequently goes forward to shoot and score.

Zdenek Nehoda is more like an English centre forward than a Czech. Not particularly skilled, he is not big either but never stops chasing. Like an old-fashioned 'tank-type' he bustles around, making himself a general nuisance and despite

in the past
ld romp home



The Czechoslovakia team which beat Sweden 4-0 in Prague. Left to right: Bicovsky, Varadin, Stratil, Svehlik, Adamec, Capkovic, Pekaric, Masny, Ondrus, Dobias, Vencel.

his apparent lack of class manages to get past opponents with the ball.

Assuming they are all well and match fit, they in my opinion are the backbone of the side. Now come the problems.

The biggest headache of all is *Ladislav Petra*, who impressed many people in the 1970 World Cup and scored a fine goal against Brazil. Unhappily his mode of life off the pitch is not in accord with what the Czechs regard as that of a sportsman. He has been clearly overweight several times in the last four years and his form varies.

Outcry

There was an outcry when, early this season Jezek named Petras amongst the possibles for the national team, though this was probably an invitation to the player to get himself fit.

Why Petras should be important to Jezek is easily explained. He is the only Czech forward currently playing who has that extra bit of individual ability that can take him past opponents into shooting positions. At his best he has skill, zip and scoring ability.

On the right flank the man in possession is *Masny*, a skilful, slightly built player of no great pace. He has two advantages however—frequently gets goals and has a good understanding with his club-mate *Pivarnik* who likes to move up and join him from right back.

To see *Gajdusek* on a good day is to see a very rare thing these days—a left footed player who can go past an opponent and let fly with a real rocket-like left foot shot. His problem . . . he has off and on days.

For my money the other midfield place is a toss up between the tired star *Kuna* and *Pekarik*, a young all-rounder who grafts a bit, plays a bit but has no special star qualities.

This leaves two vacancies—at left back and another stopper. The most intelligent stopper is *Samek* of Dukla but being short he lacks quite a lot in the air and against England this could be costly. Again one could consider Dobias . . . but?

The current choice is *Jozef Capkovic*, one of twins who play for Slovan (Jan has also been capped on the left wing), but neither Ondrus nor Capkovic is really good at covering even though they play together at club level.

Making up the side is likely to be *Varadin* of Trnava. He has played full back both sides (a right sided player by nature) and midfield and the advantage he has over Kuna and Dobias is that he is younger and came into the Trnava side some four or five years later.

In general terms the English can be expected to be physically stronger and better in the air (man for man) while the Czechs have the edge in ball skill but tend to play across the pitch with easy balls rather than go forward to create chances.

I take England to win perhaps 2-0 or 3-1.

Squad

The Czech squad (ages in brackets): Ivo Viktor (31) Dukla; Jan Pivarnik (27) Slovan Bratislava; Anton Ondrus (23) Slovan Bratislava; Jozef Capkovic (26) Slovan Bratislava; Premysl Bicovsky (24) Union Teplice; Ladislav Kuna (27) Spartak Trnava; Miroslav Gajdusek (23) Dukla; Marian Masny (23) Slovan Bratislava; Zdenek Nehoda (22) Dukla; Ladislav Petras (27) Inter Bratislava.

Others who might play:
Alexander Vencel (goal) 29, Slovan; Zdenek Rygel (back) 23 Banik Ostrava; Vaclav Samek (stopper) 26, Dukla; Karol Dobias (defender) 27 Sp. Trnava; Milan Cermak (midfield) 25, Sparta; Karel Vojacek (midfield) 26, Skoda Plzen; Ivan Pekarik (midfield) 22, Slovan; Antonin Panenka (midfield) 25, Bohemians; Bohumil Vesely (right wing) 29, Sparta; Jan Svehlik (forward) 23, Slovan; Jan Jarkovsky (forward) 27, Bohemians; Jan Capkovic (forward) 26, Slovan; Pavel Stratil (forward) 29, Union Teplice.

Brian Glanville looks at... PLAYE AND A

THE going concept now is that of Player Power. At Leeds United, Manchester City, Tottenham Hotspur, Queens Park Rangers, so we are told, it has made itself felt to varying degrees. "The menace of player power" was the phrase used, somewhat tendentiously, by one popular daily. Is it a menace? Does it truly exist? And what has really happened at these clubs?

Leeds and Tottenham have been dramatic examples of how a change of manager can work wonders, for better and for worse, and in an astonishingly brief space of time. The ineptitude of the Leeds' directors' choice of Brian Clough was quickly made apparent when the team fell apart, and his transfer policy if anything threw fuel on the flames.

When he went, the improvement was almost embarrassingly dramatic, four goals being shot past the Zurich goalkeeper in the European Cup, five past a Sheffield United team which had won its last five games, in the space of four days. On the Saturday of the Sheffield victory, the Leeds directors defended themselves in the official programme in a manner as unimpressive in its logic as it was in its syntax. (Will someone please acquaint them with the difference between "responsible to" and "attributable to"?)

Whatever one may think of the change which has come about in Clough since the Moloch of television swallowed him up, there is no doubt that he was not the correct man for Leeds, and the directors should have known it. That the players should have rejected him as the body rejects an alien transplant was profoundly unsurprising.

Perhaps he might have had more chance of success had he taken Peter Taylor with him. We are now beginning to see that all those fulsome plaudits Clough bestowed on Taylor, insisting that he was essential to his success, that he could not work without him, had a firm basis in reality.

What emerged in Leeds was that Clough's approach to football is essentially a hortatory, inspirational, one; somewhat after the manner of Helenio Herrera. He charges his players with confidence and adrenaline, leaving the small print, so to speak, the detail, to Peter Taylor. But at Leeds, Taylor was not there, and the players, accustomed to a manager who was Father Figure and master strategist combined, did not, to put it mildly, respond.

Clough also made evident mistakes in his assessment of players, above all in the case of Terry Cooper. While Clough was still manager, Cooper was on his way to the Second Division, with Nottingham Forest. Within days of his going, Cooper was playing brilliantly, his old, attacking self, in the European Cup.

Johnny Giles (left) of Leeds United and Alan Woodward of Sheffield United.

Assistant

What became quite evident was that the Leeds directors had not had the wisdom of the Liverpool directors. The Liverpool Board realised, when Bill Shankly suddenly and cataclysmically announced his retirement, that his spirit and influence had to be maintained. They therefore appointed in his stead his quiet and competent assistant Bob Paisley, knowing that while he had none of Shankly's charisma and ebullience, he would continue the tradition.

The players, in consequence, rallied round, and there was not the suspicion of a hiccough. At Leeds, players who had been just as devoted to Revie and his ways as Liverpool's were to Shankly rejected Clough, but rallied to Revie's assistant, Maurice Lindley, as soon as he had gone.

At Tottenham, the story has been somewhat different. Where Leeds and Liverpool lost managers who were still highly successful, Tottenham Hotspur

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lost one who, by his own admission, could no longer maintain a rapport with his players. When Bill Nicholson went, with his lieutenant, Eddie Baily, Terry Neill was controversially appointed; and Spurs responded by winning first at home then, for the first time this season, away.

The baton change was an extremely clumsy one, partly because Nicholson resigned without physically leaving White Hart Lane, partly because the Spurs board, not for the first time, seemed at pains to present itself in the worst light possible. Their indecision allowed the Blanchflower Affair to take place; a period of a week or so in which it became clear that Nicholson wanted Danny Blanchflower, his former captain, to take over from him, perhaps even to work in tandem with him, and that Blanchflower, against all expectation, was interested. When Blanchflower was passed over in favour of Neill, he made a bitter attack on Sidney Wale and the Spurs board, which increased the surrounding ill feeling.

Captaincy

For myself, there was quantum of wry amusement in the whole business, since I recalled that relations between Nicholson and Blanchflower, back in the halcyon 1960s, had not been by any means idyllic. There were many who gave Blanchflower's brilliant captaincy chief credit for the team's success, and insisted that Nicholson was a lucky man to have him. This view had clearly to be moderated when Blanchflower retired and Nicholson still continued to succeed, but there is no question that Blanchflower and Nicholson had their clashes.

There was, if I remember correctly, a semi-final match in which Blanchflower, desperate for an equaliser, pushed big Maurice Norman, the Spurs centre-half, up into midfield, and the team lost. The sequel was that Blanchflower was deprived of the captaincy. I also remember his actually being dropped from the team, at a time when personal considerations seemed to play more of a part than objective ones.

Nicholson was a fine coach and an excellent analyst of opposing teams; as, indeed, was his assistant, Eddie Baily. But his approach to football has always been dour and authoritarian, one better suited to the days before the maximum wage was abolished and (some) footballers grew rich, before the cry was for closer consultation with the shop floor.

Spurs players complained that they were being "crucified," that team talks consisted of Nicholson lecturing them for half an hour, rather than any real attempt at give and take (though again to be fair, one has heard much the same thing of Manchester United under Matt Busby.)

When Neill and his trainer-coach, Wilf Dixon, took over at the Cheshunt training ground, it was to be told by the Spurs players that they were not allowed to pass the ball with the outside of the foot, only with the inside, for fear of inaccuracy.

What Nicholson clearly needed, whether or not it took the shape of a Blanchflower, was an assistant temperamentally different from himself. An assistant who might play, so to speak, the "soft detective" to his "hard" one, who might have got through to Martin Chivers, the big centre-forward who has so much talent and needs so much cosseting, the player with whom Nicholson ended locked in inextricable combat.

As soon as Nicholson had gone Chivers, who had been left out of the team at the beginning of the season, suddenly started playing formidably well again.

Terry Neill, as he admits himself, had no great track record at Hull, though he also points out that Harold Needler, his former chairman, pays tribute to his youth and transfer policies. But he is almost exactly the reverse of Nicholson in terms of personality.

Where Nicholson was so closed, Neill is almost overwhelmingly outgoing. At 32, he is the exact contemporary of such players as the veteran centre-half, Mike England. His commitment is to enjoyment and player participation. This is not to say that — however much time may warm to it — it is ultimately superior to Nicholson's more dour approach. It does mean that Nicholson's approach was no longer obtaining results, and that Neill's may do so; indeed, **did** immediately do so, whatever may happen in the long run.

Nicholson deserves acclaim for his loyalty, his contribution, to Spurs. By the same token, Terry Neill deserves a decent chance, and I hope he will get it.

Cyril Knowles of Tottenham Hotspur back in the first team after injury, is chased by John McDowell of West Ham. Spurs, under new manager Terry Neill have been having a lean time this year.

European Cups results service

EUROPEAN CUP
FIRST ROUND, FIRST LEG

Leeds 4 (Lorimer pen., Clarke 2, Jordan)
Zurich 1 (Katic)
Celtic 1 (Wilson)
Olympiakos Pireaus 1 (Viera)
Uni. Craiova 2 (Oblemenco 2)
Atvidaberg 1 (Bo Augustsson)
Valletta 1 (Magro)
HJK Helsinki 0
Levski Spartak 0
Ujpest Dozsa 3 (Horvath, Bene, Antal Dunai)
Jeunesse D'Esch 2 (Mond, Guiliani)
Fenerbahce 3 (Osman, Cemel, Ender)
Viking Stavanger 0
Ararat Erevan 2 (Markarov 2)
Hvidovre 0
Ruch Chorzow 0
Slovan Bratislava 4 (Novotny, Masny 2, Svehlik)
Anderlecht 2 (Coeck, Van Himst)
Feyenoord 7 (Schoenmaker, Kreuz 3, Van Hanegem 2, Ressel)
Coleraine 0
St Etienne 2 (Herve Revelli, Bereta)
Sporting Lisbon 0
VOEST Linz 0
Barcelona 0
Hajduk Split 7
Keflavik 1

FIRST ROUND, SECOND LEG

Zurich 2 (Katic, Rutschmann pen.)
Leeds 1 (Clarke)
Olympiakos 2 (Kritikopoulos, Stavropoulos)
Celtic 0
Atvidaberg 3 (Andersson, Almqvist 2)
Uni. Craiova 1 (Badin)
HJK 4 (Rahja, Peltonen, Hamalainen, Forsell)
Valetta 1 (Gigilo)
Ujpest Dozsa 4 (Bene 2, Antal Dunai 2)
Levski Spartak 1 (Voinov)
Fenerbahce 2 (Cemil, Yilmaz)
Jeunesse D'Esch 0
Ararat Erevan 4 (Markarov 3, Bondarenko)
Viking 2
Ruch Chorzow 2 (Bula 2)
Hvidovre 1 (Pedersen B.)

Action from the match between Atletico Madrid and KB Copenhagen in Madrid. Atletico won 4-0.

Anderlecht 3 (Van Himst, Coeck, Thissen)
Slovan Bratislava 1 (Masny)
Coleraine 1 (Simpson)
Feyenoord 4 (Schoenmaker 3, Kreuz)
Sporting Lisbon 1 (Yazalde)
St Etienne 1 (Herve Revelli)
Barcelona 5 (Clares 2, Asensi, Juan Carlos, Cruyff)
VOEST Linz 0
Keflavik 0
Hajduk Split 2 (Dzoni, Mijac)
Bayern Munich and Magdeburg byes; Cork Celtic walked over as Omonia Nicosia withdrew.

CUP WINNERS CUP
FIRST ROUND, FIRST LEG

Liverpool 11 (Lindsay pen., Boersma 2, Thompson 2, Heighway, Cormack, Hughes, Callaghan, Smith, Kennedy)
Stromsgodset 0
Dundee United 3 (Narey, Copland, Gardner)
Jiul Petrosani 0
Ferencvaros 2 (Nyilasi, Szabo)
Cardiff City 0
Bursaspor 4 (Turan 2, Ali, Sinan pen.)
Finn Harps 2 (Ferry, Bradley)
Sliema Wanderers 2 (Camilleri 2)
Reipas Lahti 0
Dynamo Kiev 1 (Blokhin)
CSKA Sofia 0
Malmo 1 (Cerin)
Sion 0
Gwardia Warsaw 2 (Sroka, Kraska)
Bologna 1 (Savoldi)
Slavia Prague 1 (Herda)
Carl Zeiss Jena 0
Waregem 2 (Delesie 2)
Austria/WAC 1 (Pirkner)
PAOK Salonika 1 (Terzanides)
Red Star Belgrade 0
PSV Eindhoven 10 (Van der Kuylen 3, Lubse 3, Kemper, Deykers, Edstrom, Van Kraay)
Ards 0
Fram Reykjavik 0
Real Madrid 2 (Roberto, Martinez 2)
Benfica 4 (Jordao 2, Humberto, Nene)
Vanlose 0
Eintracht Frankfurt 3 (Holzenbein 2, Rohrbach)
Monaco 0

FIRST ROUND, SECOND LEG

Stromsgodset 0
Liverpool 1 (Kennedy)
Jiul Petrosani 2 (Rosnai, Tonca)
Dundee United 0
Cardiff 1 (Dwyer)
Ferencvaros 4 (Takacs, Szabo, Pusztai, Mate)
Finn Harps 0
Bursaspor 0
Reipas Lahti 4 (Salonen, Lehtanen, Sandberg 2)
Sliema Wanderers 1 (Aquilina)

Johan Neeskens, playing for Barcelona against VOEST Linz of Austria.

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WHO WOULD BE A MANAGER?

asks

KEIR RADNEDGE

THE job of football team manager has always been unrewarding ultimately—even the most successful managers get the sack in the end—but this season has thrown up some most incredible examples of the instability of the profession.

From Brian Clough (a subject I leave to someone else), to Di Stefano and Puskas, to Karl-Heinz Thielen, to the World Cup managers we've seen nothing but trouble.

The names of Alfredo di Stefano and Ferenc Puskas are synonymous with the high standards of Real Madrid in the late 1950s and early 1960s—and Puskas of course made an indelible impression on British soccer in 1953.

But it does not follow that great players make great managers and both these men have recently had the chastening experience of losing their jobs—in somewhat different circumstances—within days of each other.

Puskas, once famous as Honved's "Galloping Major", was the first to be given his marching orders (so to speak). He had taken over at Panathinaikos of Athens in 1970, after unsuccessful spells in the lower echelons in Spain and in Canada at Vancouver.

Certainly he had a remarkable first season, for in the early summer of 1971 Panathinaikos found themselves beating Everton and Red Star Belgrade to earn a place at Wembley in the Champions' Cup Final.

Outclassed

They went down 2-0, totally outclassed, by Ajax, but have only taken one more title—the championship, in 1972—since. Still, it seemed that the directors were well satisfied with the former Hungarian star, and it was something of a shock when he found himself out of a job at the end of August.

There had been rumours for some time of discontent among several leading players—but few clubs are free from these problems.

At least Panathinaikos had someone ready and waiting to take over—Stjepan Bobek, the one-time Yugoslav star inside forward of Partizan Belgrade. And the Panathinakos job is not new to him.

Bobek was manager of Panathinaikos from 1963 to 1967, leading them to the championship twice and to the Cup once.

The only way he went wrong was nothing to do with football: when the Colonels swept to power Bobek's political sympathies were put under question, and he left the country somewhat speedily.

Now that the Colonels have gone (and ex-Major Puskas) he is no doubt happy to be back in the job he had no wish to leave.

So much for Puskas. But the situation with di Stefano was different—he didn't even last as long with Sporting of Lisbon as Brian Clough at Leeds! Clough was in power at Elland Road for 44 days—di Stefano only made a round 40 in Portugal.

He had taken over at the end of July after Sporting, under former international full back Mario Lino, had won the Cup and League double. And not only had they deposed arch rivals Benfica as champions, for good measure, they had beaten them 2-1 in the Cup Final as well.

Just as with Clough, everything appeared almost too good to be true. Di Stefano was blessed with a championship side going into the Champions' Cup—all he had to do, virtually, was pick the team.

But there were other problems. First di Stefano had to try to sort out the contract and financial tangles involving the club and several players, among them club skipper Victor Damas, the national team's goalkeeper.

Di Stefano, again shades of Clough, is not renowned as a born diplomat. Even during his playing days at Real there were stories of disagreements involving a number of his colleagues — Brazil's Didi and France's Raymond Kopa among them.

Di Stefano had quit as a player in 1966, immediately taking over Spanish first division club Elche. But he failed here to hit it off with players and directors—was caught in a crossfire—and eased out after only a matter of months.

Returned

It was then that he returned to his native Buenos Aires to take over Boca Juniors. He caused a storm by dropping Antonio Rattin—the villain of the piece at Wembley in 1966—but the jeers turned to cheers when Boca walked off with the championship.

Valencia offered him £35,000 a year, so he came back to Spain and the magic worked once more: Valencia took the championship for the first time in 24 years when they came out on top in 1971, and di Stefano was the hero once more.

Not that the euphoria lasted too long. Valencia finished a modest tenth last season, and after di Stefano and president Ros Casceres had spent weeks and months saying how happy tfley were with each other, club and manager parted company at the end of the season.

There was talk of di Stefano taking over the Argentinian national team when 40-year-old Vladislao Cap, the World Cup boss, returned to take over Deportivo Cali in Colombia. But Sporting Club president Joao Rocha was first off the mark.

He flew to Alicante, where di Stefano was on holiday, and, in di Stefano's words: "He came to see me, we had a chat, and reached agreement." It was an agreement which soon turned sour.

Besides the contract problems, Sporting were beaten in pre-season friendlies in both Brazil and Spain. Even more worrying for the directors, as time dragged on, was di Stefano's failure to persuade Hector Yazalde, Europe's top scorer last term, to sign a new contract.

The upshot was a confrontation between manager and president which ended up with di Stefano out of work again—and on the eve of the Champions' Cup first round first leg against St Etienne in France.

Not surprisingly, Sporting lost that match 2-0, but stand-in coach Osvaldo Silva, a star inside forward in the early sixties, was successful in obtaining Yazalde's signature on a new contract!

Different

The case of Karl-Heinz Thielen is somewhat different in that he has not lost his job—merely taken on the frightening responsibility of a Bobby Charlton-type comeback to try to help 1st FC Koln out of trouble.

Thielen, now 34, is general manager of Koln, but one point from the first five games left his club, twice champions and once cup winners in the past 12 years as well as current UEFA Cup contenders, firmly at the foot of the Bundesliga.

It was after Koln had fluffed two penalties going down 1-0 at home to Kickers Offenbach that Yugoslav team coach Tschik Cajkovski turned to Thielen.

He last played in the league two years ago, and Liverpool fans may remember him from the Champions' Cup quarter final clash nine years ago which the West Germans lost of the toss of a coin.

Thielen was an outside right then, but now he's back vacillating between sweeper and midfield because, to add to Koln's problems, international star Heinz Flohe could be out for at least three months because of a serious back injury.

Thielen has proved a more than competent general manager, but trying to com-

England's new boss Don Revie and his right-hand man Les Cocker meet Josef Venglos and Vaclav Jezko, trainer and manager respectively of Czechoslovakia.

bine two roles could prove a real embarrassment if Koln don't show a sudden improvement in results.

Even more astonishing than the fact that Thielen should risk his own position in such a way are the "casualty figures" for the World Cup bosses: ten down, six to go, though not all have parted company through dismissal.

Still, it's an object lesson in the instability of the job.

Hapless

The latest man on the move is Blagoje Vidinic, the 40-year-old former Yugoslav international goalkeeper, who was in charge of poor Zaire's hapless attempt to make their mark.

Vidinic did some good work for Zaire, taking them to the African Championship and the World Cup Finals for the first time. But after the humiliation of West Germany the writing was clearly on the wall.

To lose only 2-0 to Scotland and 3-0 to Brazil was not so bad. It was the 9-0 fiasco in between against Vidinic's countrymen, Yugoslavia, which was too much.

He tried to resign immediately after the final whistle and the players wanted to pull out and go home there and then.

Only the intervention of Zaire's President Mobutu averted that ultimate disgrace, but Vidinic was obviously not going to last. So now, only Scotland with Willie Ormond, of the teams in Zaire's group, have kept their manager.

Yugoslavia's Miljan Miljanic has taken up his 70,000-a-year contract with Real Madrid, and his assistant Milovan Ciric, has followed his footsteps, and gone to Valencia.

Brazil, of course, were known to be about to part company with Mario Zagalo even before the finals. But if he hadn't gone of his own accord he would have been ousted anyway, so appalled were senior officials at the sadly disillusioning tactics he employed.

Zagalo, at least, does seem to have seen the light at last—if too late.

He's back in charge of Botafogo, the club he once graced as a player, and though they have lost more games than they have won, their brave attacking soccer has astounded the fans.

Abandoned

"I've completely changed my philosophy," Zagalo said. "Though we've lost two big local derbies I think we are on the right road. I've abandoned defensive, overcautious football for the kind of attacking play the public want to see.

"I learned my lesson during the World Cup. Now I intend to take risks, to be a pioneer even. Someone has to do something."

Well said.

The two German teams keep faith in their managers. Georg Buschner, the 49-year-old former international full back and university lecturer, stays with the East Germans he took over in 1970. But I still feel there is a question mark against the future of Helmut Schoen (as I wrote in the September *World Soccer*), despite reports that his contract has been extended to 1978 by the DFB.

Threatening

Australia's Zvonimir "Rale" Rasic is still in charge Down Under, though he's been making threatening noises lately, while ill health has forced Chile's Luis Alamos to quit. Poland keep Kazimierz Gorski but Cap has quit Argentina, Antoine Tassy has been fired by Haiti (not literally one hopes) and Italy's Ferruccio Valcareggi has been reduced to the role of chief scout!

Bulgaria's Hristo Mladenov continues apparently merely as caretaker, Uruguay's Roberto Porta resigned before he could be sacked, and though Georg Ericsson stays with Sweden even Holland, who set the Finals alight, are under completely new management (as I forecast in July).

General manager Rinus Michels went back to Barcelona, and the Dutch "rewarded" Czech-born Frantisek Fadrhonc, who took them to West Germany, by not renewing his contract.

Even that was a better fate than the one suffered by chief coach Cor van der Hart. He was told that his services were no longer required in the middle of the finals themselves!

PAULO CESAR

— interview —

QUESTION: Olympique Marseilles paid a record French transfer fee for you. Are you confident that you will be able to repay your immense fee in terms of results?

ANSWER: I believe that this is an impossible question to answer, because it all depends upon what you mean by repaying my fee. Obviously one of the main reasons why the Olympique management decided to buy me was that they felt I was the type of player to attract the crowds. I don't think I'm being conceited by saying this—I'm simply stating facts.

I was bought because the French First Division urgently needs personalities. Frankly, I feel that my drawing power is of more importance to them than how I play. On the other hand if I help Olympique to achieve some success in my first season, then I don't think anyone will be in a position to complain.

It was said of you after the Germany World Cup that you lacked both dedication and determination. Have you any comments to make about these accusations?

Criticism is always a good thing if it is justified. And certainly my form in West Germany left a great deal to be desired.

I can't really put my finger on the trouble; it was essentially a combination of many things, the prime one probably being my extreme nervous exhaustion, which made me lose my appetite for the game.

Benefits

You see, in Brazil football is a twelve months a year slog. This isn't too bad when you're very young, but as you get older and become more involved in international competition, you begin to realise the tremendous benefits to be gained from a rest from the game.

I can assure you that if I'd had a break, my form in Germany would have been a great deal better. To be honest, by the time the Finals got under way I was so mentally exhausted that I had lost all interest in playing.

Maybe this shows a flaw in my character, but if the Brazilian FA hadn't been so preoccupied with playing as many matches as possible in the shortest possible time, all the guys in the squad, including myself, would have been much sharper!

After Pele retired from international football, critics throughout the world were unanimous in hailing you as the "Black Pearl's" successor. Do you think that this label has hindered your career in any way?

Like any other man, I don't like being labelled. Pressmen throughout the world built me up as another Pele, something which I didn't approve of because although I have always been a great Pele fan, I have never at any time attempted to ape him.

When I made the Brazilian national side I was determined to play the game as I felt it should be played. And without any disrespect to Pele, my style is contrary to his. After all, there will always be only one Pele.

After many years playing in the fiery furnace of Brazilian League soccer, you must find the French First Division small beer in comparison . . .

Although it is by no means as strong in depth as the English First Division for example, French football is much more taxing than it is in Brazil. Of course, the leading sides in my native country are streets ahead of the French in respect of skill.

Bottom

But whereas in Brazil so many games are easy to play in because the opposition is often extremely inferior, in France the gap between top and bottom is not nearly so great. Also the tackling is a great deal more robust, and tackles which would be ruled as fouls in Brazil, are regarded as the norm in France. In essence then, playing in France is by no means an easy ride!

As a player used to playing on hard grounds, have you found it difficult to adapt to the heavier surfaces experienced in France?

That is a very good question. And trust me to begin my French career in one of the coldest and dampest autumns on record. So far I haven't found it more difficult to stamp my authority on a game. No, what has been my main problem has been my stamina.

As you rightly say, in Brazil the grounds are harder which means that one's fitness is often of secondary importance. This is certainly not the case in France where if you are to survive ninety minutes on a muddy pitch you've got to be in peak condition.

Once I have completely adapted myself to these different climatic conditions, I can't see any reason why I shouldn't do well in France.

For some years now Olympique Marseilles have been noted for the many personality clashes amongst their players. How was your arrival greeted by the other members of the first-team squad?

If you are implying that there was resentment among the other players, then you're wrong. All the members of the first-team pool knew of the financial rewards I had received as a result of my signing on for Olympique, but not one of them expressed any antagonism towards me.

I was given the kind of welcome any new player would receive, which is as it should be. Obviously if we don't have a successful season, rumours about the lack of team spirit in the club are bound to be well publicised in the Press.

And of course I'll be used as the whipping-boy. But every highly-priced professional must learn to both expect and accept this.

Finally, as a South American, have you found the European game as ultra-defensive as you expected it to be?

Defensive

More sophisticated in defence, yes. But not nearly so defence-conscious as we are led to believe in Brazil, which leads me to another point.

In all honesty, I cannot for-the-life-of-me understand how this Europe defence equation ever really started. After all, at the present time Brazilian soccer is far more defensive than in any other country in Europe, apart that is from Italy.

As far as France is concerned, it's goals that count, an attitude which is fast declining in Brazil. Okay, the tackling is harder, but from what I've seen so far, to say that European football is based purely on a defensive concept is utter nonsense.

Can Eindhoven pip the giants?

THOUGH it is not generally appreciated outside Holland, Eindhoven is the centre of the giant international electrical engineers Philips—and Philips Sport Verein is PSV, —a highly subsidised venture that could if really successful bring in a great advertising return for comparatively little outlay.

Way back in the 1950's PSV tried to gain a place in the forefront of the Dutch game. They imported stars from Britain, including the Welsh international centre forward Trefor Ford, but then suddenly the Company's interest appeared to wane.

Now PSV are amongst the best supported clubs in Holland and, as Dutch Cup Winners, they look poised at last for the big break-through. Their biggest assets are not players—but their manager Kees Rijvers and their ground, the Philips Sportpark. Though the ground only holds 20,000 they play to almost full houses.

This season practically all the seats have gone for the season, and they have almost completed the building programme that will see covered seats on all four sides of the ground. They have the best floodlights in the world (advertising again), and a real innovation . . . hot air central heating directed down from the stands so that customers can sit and watch the game in shirt sleeves—even in the coldest weather.

Facilities

If the ground is small it's also a real gem, and at last, judging by the performances in the opening weeks, it seems that PSV have a team to match their facilities.

This is Kees Rijvers second season with PSV—after leading FC Twente (Enschede) into prominence and a last season the signs were there that PSV were close to rivalling Ajax and Feyenoord. They took the FA Cup, winning the final 6-0 and earned a place in the UEFA Cup. Since then they have strengthened their squad in two key positions and look even better.

The two new signings are Peter Dahquist (from Orgryte IS), and a Swedish midfield player who also gets amongst the goals and Bertus Quarrs, another midfield player long coveted by Rijvers.

Now the PSV outfit looks more like a squad than a team and with several men able to play more than one role there is pressure on everyone. The basic set-up last season was based on attack with two international stars providing stability in defence—goalkeeper Jan Van Beveren and the Swedish World Cup stopper Bjorn Nordquist.

Anchor man in midfield was Willie Van der Kuylen in the centre and Willy Van der Kerkhoff on his left. Both men sprint forward to exploit gaps in attack whenever they get the chance. On the right wing is Willy's brother Rene Van der Kerkhoff, with the giant Swede Ralf Edstrom at centre forward.

Down the left flank it's all attack. Gerry Deykers was signed as a left winger but went straight to left back for PSV . . . and moves forward. Willy Van der Kerkhof, in front of him, attacks and the left wing striker is Harrie Lubse, who scored two of the goals on the opening day of the season when PSV won 3-1 away to MVV at Maastricht.

Last season Pleun Strik completed the midfield trio with Danish international Bengt Schmidthansen unable to command a regular place. Now of course Quaars and Dahlquist add to the competition. In the opening five league games PSV have taken 10 points, scoring 16 goals to 6 and

News from HOLLAND

if Ajax have matched this run, PSV took a psychological advantage when they beat the champions Feyenoord 3-2 at home with Edstrom taking a hat trick.

Ajax, meanwhile, have a new manager in Hans Kraay, who in the words of Mr. Jaap Van Praag earned his year's salary by persuading Johnny Rep to stay with the club. He also strengthened the side considerably by obtaining the services of the former FC Twente international goalkeeper Piet Schrijvers.

Campaign

The attack, which has caused so many problems since Cruyff, now includes Geels, a Dutchman who had been playing in Belgium for FC Bruges. He should develop a formidable striking force with Rep. Piet Keizer, for years the left winger, has now dropped back into a midfield role.

Ajax began their new campaign with a 2-0 win at home over Excelsior, the newly promoted Rotterdam club—Rep and Pim Van Dord the scorers. Their only real test in five straight wins was the visit of Twente and according to the neutrals they were lucky to win 1-0. Keizer scored the only goal early on, following up an effort from Geels that hit the bar. Twente then got on top but had two second half goals disallowed.

Clearly Feyenoord are going to remain a power though they will perhaps be distracted by their European Cup effort. Wiel Coerver added an extra dimension to his attack when he signed the Austrian international centre forward Willy Kreuz from neighbours Sparta and added another midfield player—the Dane John Olsen (from Utrecht). Feyenoord also released two Dutch caps—Jan Boskamp moving to RWD Molenbeek (Belgium) and Henk Wery joining FC Utrecht.

Inspiration

After five games Feyenoord have run up a total of 20 goals and apart from that defeat at Eindhoven have full points. They also have the biggest crowd of the season so far, 40,000 for the home game with Roda JC (Kerkrade) and against Ajax's best of 35,000 v Twente. But overall gates at this stage for the top flight are down from a 1973-74 average of 14,500 to 11,000.

Even with their new signings Ajax are still unable to produce the magic they showed at their peak with Cruyff and (a younger) Keizer their inspiration. But they will never be far away from the top. Feyenoord too have a fine squad and some excellent individuals but it will probably develop into a three horse race and if PSV Eindhoven come through to take the title it will surprise no one—least of all in Brabant.

Suurbier of Holland.

Gloomy media administers last rites

Speaking Personally by Leslie Vernon

THE gloom-mongers are in full flight again! They came to bury football not to praise it, as though they were obeying the commands of their own death-wish, which according to Freud (or was it Brian Glanville?) is deeply ingrained in all of us.

The sports pages of our national Press read like a giant obituary column administering the last rites to a dying game. If it is true that man destroys the things he loves, then the manipulators of the media must be besotted with football. Even that sober apostle of the unsensational, Donald Saunders, (Daily Telegraph) talks about a "fading spectator sport", laments piously over the dismissal of eight (oh dear, isn't it terrible?) players, and then describes at length (26 lines) the Mancini bare-bottom incident.

I am now anticipating the first match report, which will end with the immortal words, "our reporter made an excuse and left". Ironically, under the funereal Saunders piece, there was a tiny news item with the heading "Gates increase".

Ah, well, you can't win them all. Some fools still go to football matches despite what they read in the papers. Isn't it slightly ironic that the much-abused television commentators have a much more realistic, better-balanced view of the current state of the game?

Neither Jimmy Hill nor Brian Moore would stoop to perpetrate scare stories for the sake of notoriety. But, of course, not everything is rosy in the garden, and there is a certain amount of cause for concern. It is also fair to say that since most of the leading sports journalists are London - based, they are inevitably influenced by the happenings in the capital.

Gordon Jago, the new manager at Millwall, meets coach Lawrie Leslie.

Changes

It depresses me as well to see the wholesale changes in the managerial chairs. Yet in each case, there is a logical explaination. People like Herrera, Kovacs and Michels have often said that no coach should stay with the same club for more than five years, because his training methods, tactical thinking etc., become stale.

Even Revie, Shankly, and more recently, Jock Stein, found it increasingly difficult to motivate their players—familiarity breeds boredom! This would explain the departure of Nicholson and the "promotion" of Greenwood. Dave Sexton had to fail because he let his best players leave the club, and at the same time, he kept a goodly proportion of those who can't play—or at least, not up to First Division standards.

Gordon Jago's case is slightly more

European Footballer of the Year Johann Cruyff receives the "Golden Ball" in Barcelona.

puzzling. Q.P.R. had their best season ever in '73/74, yet the Chairman didn't know how to say "well done" or "thank you". Not financially—verbally, which is often just as important. I won't deal with the Leeds affair in detail, because I do not wish to involve this publication in a libel action. Suffice to say that my advice to Jimmy Armfield—an immensely talented, likeable man—is that he should sit tight for a couple of months, then get rid of the ringleaders and kingmakers in the camp.

Otherwise, Mr. Cussins' concern for "the happiness of the staff" might present the "dressing room" with another pyrrhic victory.

Admittedly, it is easy to get the wrong impression about the present state of the game by getting bogged down in these purely parochial matters. The fact is that football, the world game, is on the upswing once again. I saw Twente Enshede at Ipswich, and Ferencvaros at Cardiff recently, and was quite astonished to witness the progress made by some of their players.

Most of them, especially Zuidema, Drost, Takacs and Szabo, were quite brilliant on the ball, and their approach to the game a refreshing contrast to our dour domestic product.

These, quote Continentals unquote, are trying to PLAY football at all times. The emphasis is on ball-control, wit, style, class, flair. While we in this country are continually talking about "results", and putting the goals for an against columns at the top of priorities of 90 minutes ENTERTAINMENT, they are willing to take the risks involved in an adventure.

In any case, bad football is not winning football, and a touch of class has never hurt the box-office either. By turning away from the dull British prototype, even hitherto second-rate countries are able to produce such gems as Deyna, Boney, and the Greek Delikaris.

When Sir Alf Ramsey made his much quoted remark in 1970 that "we have nothing to learn from the Brazilians", I attacked him for the wrong reasons, assuming that in his blinkered isolation, he thought that British was best.

Coaching

Since then, he has explained that what he really meant was that because Anglo-Saxons have no hope to learn the skills of the South Americans, they might as well concentrate on their "natural" assets. After that remark, one can safely take issue with him and with most of the coaches, who, deep down, believe in this ill-conceived nonsense. Was Stanley Matthews born in Argentina? Was there any Latin blood flowing in the veins of Tom Finney, Len Shackleton, Johnny Haynes? Aren't Franz Beckenbauer and Gunter Netzer Anglo-Saxons? Are the Dutch people noted for their inventiveness and artistry?

It is my contention that a Cruyff or a Mazzola can be developed anywhere in the world, irrespective of ethnic characteristics. It depends on the principles of coaching at schoolboy level, and later, in the professional game. We do have a few ball artists in this country, or rather a few players who can control the ball properly. But they usually operate in a vacuum, with a bunch of workhorses around them blunting their impact and influence.

In the Twente or Ferencvaros teams, the stars were only slightly ahead of their colleagues, but everyone was at least trying to play the game as it was intended to be played, as a form of artistic self-expression. Not as a speeded-up, tougher version of a park match, which can be seen free of charge at the Scrubbs every Sunday morning.

And now, to the howls of anguish, concerning the three-up-and-three-down system. Many shrewd observers blame the introduction of this—in my view, excellent—reform for the defensive nature of English League football. Brian James wrote that since 50% more managers (3 instead of 2) are in danger of getting the sack, it is a bad thing.

My answer: Football is not devised to provide secure jobs for managers. Where are the bosses of the three relegated clubs (Norwich, Manchester U., Southampton) now? They have all stayed put.

Freddie Goodwin advocates the complete abolition of the promotion-relegation system.

Standards

My answer: We would have a glut of meaningless matches played in deserted stadia. Would that help to improve standards? Take out the "fear" element, and you transform the games into non-events. How about the lower divisions? Would that be fair to the clubs there? We still have a very moderate relegation system in England. Three out of 16 teams are demoted yearly in Italy, and three out of 18 in Spain.

In W. Germany, the rate of goal-scoring was the highest for years last season, yet two out of 18 clubs were sure to be relegated. It is unrealistic to hide behind non-existent barriers, and blame the laws of the game, the promotion system, our inherent clumsiness (?) for our failures. The solution, as one said before, is in the hands of the coaches.

They could change the face of English football in five years, if they really wanted to . . . .

ARTHUR ROTMIL turns the World Socce

Tremendous in playing

THE fine performance of Olympiakos Piraeus, who have eliminated mighty Celtic in the European Cup, has spotlighted the tremendous improvement in playing standards of Greek football. That Greece was no longer the Cinderella among the national teams became evident when in recent years their representative side celebrated such successes in full internationals as the 4-1 win over Austria (1967), Portugal 4-2 (1968), Italy 2-1 (1972) and the 0-0 draw with the former world champions Brazil in Rio, of all places, in 1974.

At club level the best achievement was undoubtedly that of Panathinaikos, who in 1971 after beating Everton and Red Star Belgrade, among others, reached the final of the European Cup which they lost honourably at Wembley to Ajax Amsterdam by 0-2. But the country's most popular club remain Olympiakos who are domiciled in the port of Piraeus, situated some six miles from the centre of Athens.

The club was founded in 1924 and unlike most of its counterparts on the Continent it catered at first exclusively for football. Olympiakos in fact began in most unusual circumstances, for no fewer than seven of the team's players were brothers! The entire forward line hailed from the same family and all five boasted naturally the same name.

It wasn't till the latter 1930's, that other sports like swimming, yachting and even polo were included in the club's activities. Today this club is one of the richest in Greece and its total of 19 championship titles and 16 Cup wins are both easily records in Greece. Olympiakos' recent successes stem from the shrewd management of the board of directors, which since 1970 has been headed by the shipping magnate Nikolaos Goulandris.

He is a progressive, far sighted and internationally-minded figure, as befits someone intimately connected with global transport and conducting his affairs in a comopolitan port. Mr. Goulandris has recognised the tremendous upsurge of interest in soccer in his country.

Over 300,000 people turned up at Athens airport to greet Panathinaikos on their return from Wembley's European Cup final, despite being beaten! And an estimated 100,000 fans gave Olympiakos a rousing reception just for winning in the First Round of the UEFA-Cup! No wonder that all European games involving Greek teams are televised live. The Minister for Sport has himself ordered the TV authorities to fulfil the demands of this football crazy nation.

On the domestic scene the Greek First Division consists of 17 clubs plus one from Cyprus, as a token of the close links between the Greek communities on the mainland and that island, which was recently ravaged so tragically by war. Greek football also supports a Second Division whose 36 clubs are divided into three groups, whose winners are promoted to the upper sphere.

Olympiakos are one of the "big three" in Greece, the others being Panathinaikos and AEK, the team of the Electricity Supply Company, both from Athens. But recently they have been pressed hard by strong provincial clubs like PAOK and Aris, both from the second largest city, Salonika. The five clubs mentioned can afford to pay their players more than the other rivals, so that not surprisingly the cream of the country's footballers is concentrated in the top clubs.

It is a measure of the monopoly established by the leading clubs, that only four of them have ever won the League championship since its inception in 1927. They are Olympiakos, Panathinaikos, AEK and Aris.

The basic wages in Greek football are comparatively low, but thanks to a lucrative bonus system the leading stars can earn a lot of money. Win bonuses of £70 in League matches are fairly common and these accumulate when the team scores four wins in a row. But the real rewards lie in the European competitions.

Rewarded

When for instance Olympiakos defeated the Italian team Cagliari in the First Round of the UEFA-Cup in 1972, every player collected about £1,000! Even the more modest AEK rewarded their men with £500 for beating the unfancied Hungarian side Salgotarjan.

The vast improvement in playing technique and tactical know-how is certainly to a large degree due to the numerous foreign coaches imported from various European countries mostly from Yugoslavia, Hungary, Austria and from Britain. Panathinaikos were led into the European Cup final by that famous Hungarian star Ferenc Puskas, who was recently replaced by the Yugoslav Stefan Bobek. Until the start of this season six British coaches were either re-engaged or were expected to do so with their Greek clubs: Les Shannon (PAOK Salonika), Wilf McGuinness (Aris Salonika), Jack Mansell (Heraklis Salonika), John Mortimore (Ethnikos Athens), Joe Mallett (Panionos Athens)

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r spotlight on to GREECE this month...

improvement g standards

and Ray Wood (Trikal). Before them Billy Bingham was manager to the Greek national side, until he left to take over Everton, whilst Alan Ashman, George Curtis and Tom Eggleston have also coached here for a time.

Small wonder, that there is also a great deal of interest in British football in Greece, so that newspapers carry details of the sporting scene in the United Kingdom, including all the soccer results. A great influence is also exercised by football from the leading countries on the Continent and especially at international level.

The Greek championship normally ends in June, so that the new season does not start till the end of September. Olympiakos, who incidentally are managed by a Greek, Lakis Petropoulos, the former national coach were the most consistent team last term. There is little doubt, that Petropoulos has proved himself to be not only a first class coach, but also a shrewd psychologist, having successfully integrated and blended different types of players with varying temperaments.

His squad includes a couple of South Americans in Milton Viera and Julio Losada, from the famous Uruguayan champion club Peñarol Montevideo. And stopper Persidis was persuaded to return from Vienna. Unfortunately the club has lost the services of Yves Triantafyllos, who was their leading scorer last season with 24 goals. He has decided to return to France to continue his professional career.

Olympiakos' next best scorers were Kritikopoulos (19 goals), Joutsos (11), Losada (10) and Delikaris (9). In fact their forward line hit 102 goals in 34 matches, while the defence had only conceded 14! And it can be seen from these figures how the striking power of their forwards was evenly distributed. In several matches they ran riot, as for example in the 11-0 win over Fostir, 8-2 v. Appolon and twice by 6-0 against Panseirakos and Aigaleo. The defence too, has proved itself the best in the land.

Suffered

Goalkeeper Kellesidis and the back four of Gaitatzis, Siokos, Glessos and Angelis helped Olympiakos to the championship title. The team suffered only one defeat—to PAOK Salonika by 0-1 and the same club also beat them in the Cup final, but only after a decisive penalty contest.

Greece boasts of several fine football stadiums, the largest of which is the Karaiskaki national stadium, where Olympiakos play, with a capacity of 45,000. Other big grounds are Kaftanzioglion in Salonika for 40,000; AEK Athens 35,000; Panathinaikos 30,000; and PAOK Salonika 30,000.

Last season the 306 League matches drew aggregate attendances of nearly three million fans, for an average of 9,700 per game. By way of comparison, this is one million more than ten years ago and 1,7 million above the figures for 1960! Indeed, a startling proof of the increased popularity of soccer in the land of the Hellenes.

Detailed statistics reveal, that the biggest crowds flocked, as expected, to the matches of Olympiakos who averaged 29,500 per game. Next came PAOK Salonika with 19,575, followed by Panathinaikos on 17,650; AEK Athens, 16,500; Iraklis 10,700 and Aris Salonika 10,270.

Greek soccer has come a long way since the days when their players were better known for their antics, like spectacular aerial acrobatics, rather than effective football. The engagement of skilled foreign coaches has made the Greek footballers more efficient and tactically mature. It has also contributed to better discipline, which was once a decidedly ugly feature of the game here.

For this a lot of credit must go to the Greek Football Federation which was bold enough to allow foreign referees, mainly from Switzerland, Austria and Germany as well as some from England, to control League matches there. And they certainly imposed their authority on the game. The Federation also streamlined the points system in the championship, by bringing it into line with the rest of Europe. Up until recently, Greek clubs were rewarded with three points for a win, two points for a draw and one point just for turning up and completing a match. . . .

Gunther Netzer scores for Real Madrid in a friendly match against Panathiniakos of Greece

FURPHY SHAPES UNITED'S FUTURE

Ken Furphy

by Eric Thornton

KEN FURPHY. That's the name of the boss of ambitious Sheffield United. And this is the man who by all soccer's good graces I am going to toast on behalf of the game today.

He's not yet shaped a Wembley winner, nor taken a team to the championship summit. But the folk who know a thing or two believe that once the chips go down right, a top trophy will go his way.

And if the casualty list never grows too long, this winter could be just what the doctor ordered. Because the squad that has been assembled at Bramall Lane is as good, if not better, than any other in the four quarters of Britain.

The early season brought one or two disappointments. Yet the last time I saw this experienced campaigner on the sidelines he was obviously enjoying himself, a sign that always spells trouble ahead for everybody in the opposition.

Indication

You may ask whether that really makes any difference, and he'll quickly tell you it does. This is why: "I have always believed that when a manager enjoys watching his own team it's a sure indication that they are playing well."

That's one line of thought. Another is that in these troublesome times of mealy-mouthed platitudes, cover-ups, and servility that often stinks to the high Heavens, it's a pleasure to look upon a manager who stands securely on two feet and is not afraid of admitting it.

He's a tough son of the north-east, where folk still believe that a mere whistle down a pit fetches up a star of tomorrow. And two decades in the sport have supplied the right background for opinion, without any truculent brashness or the knavishness of top flight executives. Just crystal clear honest-to-goodness stuff.

One can anticipate such an attitude towards life and people because he was first taught the game in the fields around Stockton-on-Tees, where a spade's always a spade. Then there was a brief spell with Everton, followed by long service as a Darlington wing-half before moving across to the west coast again and into the hot seat at hard-up Workington.

But he couldn't settle. The nomadic spirit re-asserted itself once more, and he travelled south to the Home counties to give Watford fans the time of their lives, and very nearly became a Freeman of the Borough.

Rebuilt

The club was struggling when the reins were handed over. He rebuilt the playing resources—and finances, too—and wrote successive chapters in letters of gold which none of the locals are ever likely to forget.

For instance, there was the wonderful occasion when Matt Busby's beloved Manchester United were held to a Fourth Round replay in a grim F.A. Cup battle which cost the wide boys a packet, and spread-eagled all the odds.

Over Britain thousands said it could never happen. It was just a fluke. But all were proved wrong within a mere twelve months. Because it did happen again, and in ever better style.

Favourites

Liverpool, Wembley favourites, were next on the receiving end. They went home beaten, while everybody else in the old town almost went berserk, jigging backwards and forwards along the winding High Street until dawn.

Ken, however, recognised the Vicarage Road outfit's limitations and returned north as supremo of Blackburn Rovers. Then he re-crossed The Pennines for the nth time, parking in The Lane, where Yorkshire county cricket has been kicked out and the club is building itself a new stand costing over £750,000.

Now, we find this 43-year-old letting himself go and to some good purpose. One day recently he talked again of further victory chances at the expense of the Anfielders. Next day, blow me down, his Sheffield boys were confirming that surprising forecast.

Why is he so daring? "Simply because I am confident in the ability of my players, and I know I'm confident because of the way in which I'm now enjoying watching them."

It was plain to see he enjoyed himself when the young Blades cut Ipswich Town down to size. I'm betting there are plenty more pleasant afternoons and evenings before the winter gives way to Spring, and there's a firmer indication of the shape of things to come.

If the 50-year famine is ended this season, and one of the two top prizes is landed at The Lane, next May, I hope that Sheffield United's stay-away fans have by then left the telly and the firesides and rallied round—if only in tribute to Kenneth Furphy.

ENGLAND UNDER-23 SQUAD

ENGLAND UNDER-23.—Day (West Ham), **Stevenson** (Burnley), **Gidman** (Aston Villa), **Gillard** (QPR), **Alan Kennedy** (Newcastle), **Dodd** (Stoke), **McDowell** (West Ham), **Taylor** (West Ham), **Lyons** (Everton), **Buckley** (Everton), **Powell** (Derby), **Greenhoff** (Man. Utd.), **Barry Powell** Wolves), **McDermott** (Newcastle), **Cantello** (WBA), **Perryman** (Spurs), **Sunderland** (Wolves), **Mills** Middlesbrough), **P. Taylor** (C. Palace), **Johnson** (Ipswich), **Hankin** (Burnley), **Ray Kennedy** (Liverpool).

SWISS NEWS
by Arthur Rotmil

A GOAL AT LAST BUT NOT A WIN!

AFTER four matches and precisely seven hours and 51 minutes of play, the Swiss national side has at last scored a goal. It was all the more pleasing and rewarding since it happened, curiously enough, against the world champions! And what a goal it was: Kudi Müller's acrobatic overhead bicycle kick completely surprised the redoubtable Sepp Maier in the German goal. Alas, it was not sufficient for victory, yet the Swiss can take heart from their narrow 1-2 defeat, nonetheless. National coach Rene Hüssy could certainly not have asked for a greater effort.

The Helvetian team fought with remarkable spirit, considering it was just a friendly game. But then all meetings with their German neighbours are invariably needle clashes, with prestige at stake, and the German-speaking Swiss, who represent 72 per cent of the population, always keen to defeat the "big brother".

There are several encouraging aspects of the national team's play, especially up front, where the two strikers Daniel Jeandupeux and Kudi Müller had a fine game, always considering the calibre of the opposition. The unlucky Swiss hit the woodwork three times, but it would be churlish to quarrel with the result. After all, the Germans had what looked like a perfectly good goal disallowed for an alleged foul, which even the Swiss defender involved couldn't understand!

Stamina

The Swiss rear guard did not look too confident in the opening stages, but improved visibly after the interval, although as as often happens the lack of stamina began to tell in the last quarter of the match. The side are facing an unusually heavy programme this season, mostly due to the European Championship games. After the match v. West Germany, the Swiss were due to tackle the World Cup runners-up Holland, on October 9, in Rotterdam.

Next date is a home friendly v. Portugal on November 13, followed by the opening fixture in the European Championship against Turkey, away on December 1. Then an away friendly v. Hungary on December 7. In the spring the national side will tackle Turkey at home (EC) on April 30, visit the Republic of Ireland (EC), on May 11, and finally receive the Irish in the European Championship return at home, on May 21.

In the European club competitions two Swiss teams opposed English sides: The champions FC Zurich were drawn against Leeds in the premier Cup, whilst Servette of Geneva met Derby County in the UEFA tournament. The Swiss were astonished to find that Derby's manager Dave Mackay was quoted as saying that he has "never heard of Servette".

Coming from a former Scottish international, with 22 caps, and a man who during his illustrious career with Spurs had taken part in several European Cup competitions, it was indeed an amazing admission. But then, communications between Britain and the Continent are still somewhat erratic, if one is to judge from the frequently inaccurate statistics reproduced in the British papers.

Even in such usually reliable publications as the *Guardian* and *The Times*, I was very surprised to read that the Swiss champions Zürich, who had arrived to play Leeds, were "still unbeaten this season"! FC Zürich had in fact lost their fourth League match (to FC Sion by 0-1), a full week before meeting Leeds.

Despite this set back Zurich continued to lead the way, followed by Basel, Grasshoppers and Winterthur. Grasshoppers had made a fine capture, during the summer break, by signing the Yugoslav centre forward Slobodan Santrac from OFK Belgrade. The 28-year-old striker is in fact the most prolific scorer in Yugoslavia's history.

Uncanny

Santrac has hit a record 168 goals in League matches alone and he was leading scorer in 1968, 1970, 1972 and in 1973. Because he is on the small side, the successive national managers rarely gave him an extended run in international matches, looking always for the "big blockbusters". Yet, Santrac has an uncanny goal instinct, and when he gets used to the Swiss style of play, and to his new colleagues, he could be a sensation.

Another Yugoslav import was engaged by Lausanne in the shape of Branko Klenowski (27), an international midfield player from Red Star Belgrade, who signed a two-year contract. But the most exotic newcomer to the Swiss soccer scene is undoubtedly the Argentinian striker Marcus Norberto Conigliaro (30). He was previously with Independiente and lately with Estudiantes de la Plata. Conigliaro, who joined Lugano, was incidentally the scorer of the winning goal by which Estudiantes beat Manchester United by 1-0, in the first leg of the world club championship final in 1968.

The engagement of players from various parts of the world adds of course to the already colourful assembly of soccer stars in this highly cosmopolitan country, whose citizens are themselves composed of different races. But it also underlines once again the anomalies which exist within the Swiss League.

Whilst the remuneration—including basic pay, signing-on fees, bonuses, etc., for Swiss-born players are limited to £5,000 a year, these regulations do not apply to the foreigners!

And the Swiss footballers not only have to worry about losing their first team places to the imported mercenaries. They must also suffer the compulsory military call-up, which is then extended, through frequent refresher courses, well into middle age. Needless to say, that the foreigners are exempt from this duty as well.

Daniel Jeandupeux of FC Zurich.

Dateline Diary . . . Dateline Diary . . . Da

Crowds up in European matches

SEPTEMBER 17

OFFENBACH: Kickers Offenbach beat the touring Indonesian national team 5-1 with goals from Kostedde, Schwemmle 3 and Biehn. Waskito replied for the visitors.

SEPTEMBER 18

BERNE: A total of 4,933,813 spectators watched last season's three European competitions. This was a rise of 9.1% over the previous term. Crowds for the European Cup were down by 7.3% but at the Cup Winners Cup and UEFA Cup ties there were increases of 21.7% and 17.9% respectively. The average crowd for the 247 matches was 19,975.

SEPTEMBER 19

ROUEN: The local French Second Division club was hoaxed by a team of holidaying Belgians who said they were the Brazilian club Santos. A crowd of 1,500 turned up and complained bitterly about the deception as Rouen coasted to a 10-1 win.

SEPTEMBER 21

ROUEN: Despite the row caused two days ago by a Belgian team, Rouen have signed a Brazilian from a Belgian club! He is 32 year old Moise Dos Santos . . .

SEPTEMBER 24

LISBON: Alfredo Di Stefano decides to quit as Manager of Sporting Lisbon. He claims that the club lacked any organisation and the players had arrived for pre-season training in batches of three over a week.

SEPTEMBER 25

HELSINKI: Holland win their European Championship match against Finland without undue trouble 3-1.

COPENHAGEN: Spain won 2-1 against Denmark in the European Championship though both goalscorers Jose Claramunt and Roberto Martinez found themselves in trouble after the interval. Claramunt who had scored from a penalty was sent off for persistent encroaching at a free kick and Martinez was carried off. Nygaard also scored from the spot for Denmark.

SOFIA: Bulgaria and Rumania drew 0-0 in a friendly international which was used by both teams as a build up to their forthcoming European Championship commitments.

PRAGUE: Czechoslovakia looked impressive in beating East Germany 3-1 before a crowd which included Don Revie the new England team manager watching points for the European Championship game at Wembley at the end of October.

SEPTEMBER 28

VIENNA: Hungary's new look side failed miserably against an Austrian side which lacked seven regular players unavailable or injured. The only goal of the game was scored by Hans Krankl.

ZAGREB: Yugoslavia defeated Italy 1-0 in a friendly thanks to a goal by Ivo Surjak. The Italians had only four survivors from their World Cup side — Facchetti, Zoff, Benetti and

Czechoslovakian captain Vencel (left) before the match against Sweden.

tine Diary . . .

Capello but new manager Fulvio Bernardini brought back Boninsegna and Prati to the attack.

MUNICH : Bayern Munich suffered their first home defeat since March 1970 after a run of 73 games unbeaten at home in League matches. Schalke won 2-1.

OCTOBER 2

BRAZIL : Pele finally retires. Within three weeks of his 34th birthday the great Brazilian star leaves the field after 21 minutes of a League game for Santos against Ponte Preta having played in 1,254 games and scored in 1,216 matches. The crowd of 30,000 give him a memorable ovation and Pele is reduced to tears.

OCTOBER 7

AMSTERDAM : Zoltan Varga the Hungarian exile and one-time Aberdeen player is transferred from Ajax to the West German club Borussia Dortmund.

OCTOBER 9

AALBORG : Denmark beat Iceland 2-1 in a friendly international. Lund and Le Fevre score for Denmark, Hallgrimsson for Iceland.

FRANKFURT ON ODER : East Germany scrambled to a 2-0 win over Canada with goals by Hoffman after 17 minutes and another by Hans-Jurgen Dorner on the final whistle.

WARSAW : Poland have little difficulty in beating Finland 3-0 in their European Championship match.

OCTOBER 12

MAGDEBURG : East Germany struggled against lowly Iceland in a European Championship match which ended in a 1-1 draw. It was one of Iceland's best performances in competitive football and a great boost for their coach Tony Knapp the former Southampton centre half.

OCTOBER 13

BUENOS AIRES : Argentina celebrated the award of the 1978 World Cup by drawing 1-1 with Spain. The game was for the Hispanic Cup which celebrates Columbus Day, for all Spanish peoples the Day of the (Spanish) Race.

BRATISLAVA : The Czechs continued their impressive form by beating Sweden 4-0 again watched by Don Revie. Josef Adamec made his farewell for Czechoslovakia, playing in the first few minutes before being replaced.

BRUSSELS : Belgium defeated France in a European Championship match 2-1, with the winning goal being scored by 19 year old Francois Van der Elst after the interval.

COPENHAGEN : Denmark could only draw 0-0 with Rumania in a European Championship match. But on the same day their Under-23 teams produced eight goals with Rumania scoring six of them. Three of their goals were scored by Ion Multescu, the Jiul Petrosani striker.

SOFIA : Two goals in the last four minutes gave Greece an unexpected 3-3 draw against Bulgaria in the European Championship. The Bulgarians who had been coasting towards victory were completely shaken by this late revival.

LUXEMBOURG : Hungary defeated Luxembourg 4-2 in a European Championship match but were shocked at half-time when Dussier levelled the scores with a 44th minute penalty to make it 2-2.

OCTOBER 14

MARSEILLE : Marseille completed the signing of Brazilian World Cup star Jairzinho from Bootafogo for £113,000. He joins ex-national team colleague Paulo Cesar.

OCTOBER 15

ZURICH : A record entry of 92 countries received for the Olympics of 1976. Africa provide 24 entries, Europe 22, Asia 19, Concacaf 15, South America 10 and Oceania two.

OCTOBER 17

MOSCOW : The Russians could only draw 1-1 with a Bulgarian reserve team in the Lenin Stadium. Tzvetkov gave the visitors a 58th minute lead and Onischenko equalised nine minutes from the end.

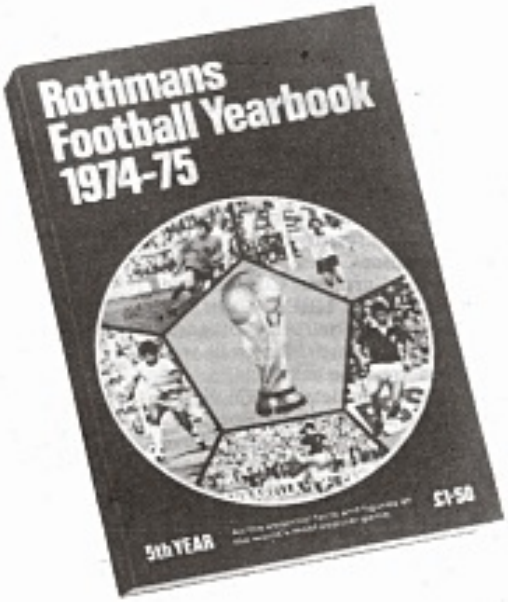
BUENOS AIRES : Independiente beat Sao Paulo 2-0 in the second leg of the Copa Libertadores, having lost 2-1 the previous week in Brazil. A play-off has now been fixed for next week. Independiente's goals came from Bochini (22 minutes) and Balbuena (47).

SOUTH AFRICA : A move by the South African National League to allow at least two blacks per team is being considered.

Which current First Division club has never been relegated?

Which player commanded the first £1000 transfer fee?

Rothmans Football Yearbook has the answers.



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European news review— PORTUGAL... BELGIUM...

POOR DEBUT

FULVIO Bernardini (68), who is now in charge of the Italian national team, had a disappointing debut at the helm when Yugoslavia beat his new look side 1-0 in Zagreb.

Only a handful of the old guard from the last disastrous World Cup remained. Senior man Giacinto Facchetti moved to sweeper, Dino Zoff kept his place in goal but only midfield players Romeo Benetti and Fabio Capello survived elsewhere.

However, Bernardini did bring back Roberto Boninsegna (31) and Pierino Prati (28) from the dead.

At the same time the Under-23 side were being held at home by the Yugoslavians in a 2-2 draw, so little comfort can be drawn from this situation either.

In the European club competitions, Bologna went out in the Cup Winners Cup but only on penalties 5-3 after both legs of their tie with Poland's Gwardia Warsaw had been won 2-1 by the respective home teams.

The quartet in the UEFA Cup enjoyed mixed fortune. Napoli came through without undue trouble against Videoton and though Juventus lost their away leg against the East German side Vorwaerts Frankfurt 2-1, they won 3-0 at home.

Inter-Milan had few problems with Etar Tirnovo but Torino found Fortuna Dusseldorf too strong for them.

Lazio, the champions who were banned from playing in the European Cup because of disturbances in the UEFA Cup last season, had a consolation prize of sorts when their trainer Tomaso Maestrelli was named as the coach of the year.

The famous pay cut inflicted on Cagliari's Luigi Riva had its amusing side. For years the inhabitants of the Sardinian island have been used to help pay for his wages.

At one time there was a levy on the rates of 6d per head towards it. So presumably they felt he belonged as much to them as the club. Anyway they boycotted an Italian Cup game against Arezzo as a protest at his wage reduction and only 5,000 turned up.

D'Esch lose

JEUNESSE D'Esch lost their fourth game of the season 3-1 to Avenir Beggen. Jeunesse had defeated them in the Cup Final last season. And there was more fortune for Avenir when their Cypriot opponents in the Cup Winners Cup had to withdraw.

Not so lucky were Jeunesse in the European Cup, losing both legs of their tie with Fererbahce from Turkey. Red Boys fared little better in the UEFA Cup crashing to Olympic Lyon on an 11-1 aggregate.

The national team appeared capable of pulling off a major surprise in their opening European Championship match when they were holding Hungary 2-2 at half-time. But they lost 4-2 in the end.

Anderlecht make early running

ANDERLECHT and RWD Molenbeek have made the early running in the Belgian League and also came through their European ties successfully.

However, with 64 minutes gone of their away Cup Winners Cup tie against Slovan Bratislava, Anderlecht looked anything but winners, trailing by four clear goals. But they pulled two back before the end.

In this match they had to play without their regular goalkeeper Jan Ruiter (27), who had suffered severe head injuries in a previous game. Instead they included Leen Barth another Dutch goalkeeper on their books, only 22, but without a first team game for 18 months.

Success

All was well in the home leg as Anderlecht won 3-1 and went through on the away goals ruling.

RWD had a spectacular success over the Scottish club Dundee. Though a last minute goal from Willie Wellens only gave them a narrow margin to take to the Scottish border. But they were impressive there in winning 4-2.

The other UEFA Cup entry Antwerp also went through on the away goals rule over Sturm Graz but in the Cup Winners Cup Waregem lost to Austria/WAC 4-1 away after taking a 2-1 lead at home thanks to goals by Herve Delesie (23).

Best individual scoring performance of the season so far has been by Francois Van Der Elst (19), who scored five of Anderlecht's goals against Ostende in 6-2 win. He now has nine in nine games. And he also managed to get the winner against France in the European Championship match.

Maurice Martens opened the scoring, the French equalised but in the 74th minute Van Der Elst gave his side victory.

A star since his youth when he won a record 18 caps for the Belgian youth team and discovered with Eendracht Mazenzek, he appears to have a bright future in front of him.

At the other end of the time scale, veteran Paul Van Himst celebrated his 80th international appearance in this match and still looks good for a few more years yet.

In Bruges they are building a new stadium to house 30,000 which will be at the disposal of both main clubs CS Bruges and FC Bruges by 1975-76 season.

Luxemburg defenders, against Hungary, left to right: Fandel, Hansen, Zuang, Langers and Flenghi.

Action from the international between Belgium and France . . . Tresopi and Jodar (right) of France tackle Teugels of Belgium—and give away a penalty.

OLYMPIAKOS RECORD

OLYMPIAKOS created some club history in Greece when they won their first European Cup tie beating Celtic 2-0 at home after drawing 1-1 at Parkhead. Previously they had only once won a leg of a European Cup tie when they defeated CSKA Sofia in the 1966-67 season, oddly enough the same season that Celtic won the competition.

Olympiakos, who had their Uruguayan forward Milton Viera booked then sent off in the first match against Celtic for two fouls, were the better side overall in the tie.

Rivals Panathinaikos suffered badly in their UEFA Cup game with Grasshoppers. They lost in Switzerland by two clear goals and at home went three down on aggregate after eight minutes.

Two late goals by Antonis Antoniadis (29) saved the game but not the tie. They had forced 20 corners too.

Deposed

Panathinaikos with the Yugoslavian Stefan Bobek in charge in place of the deposed Ferenc Puskas must now concentrate on the League race.

Bobek is one of six Yugoslavian trainers with Greek First Division clubs: Maximilianos Zekovic (Kalamata), Janko Janeuski (Panachaiki), Branko Stankovic (Aris), Liubice Spajic (Iraklis) and Bella Talfi (Kavala) are the others.

There are also six Greeks: Lakis Petropoulos (Olympiakos), Milton Papapostolou (Aigaleo), Kostas Siogas (Panseraikos), Dimitrios Kalojannis (Kastoria), Antonis Georgiadis (Jannina) and Kostas Linoxilakis (Atromitos).

England have three in charge: Les Shannon (PAOK), Vic Buckingham (Ethnikos) and Joe Mallett (Panionios) and the others are Frantisek Fadrhone (AEK) who is a Czech; Losan Kozev (Larissa) a Bulgarian and Ettore Trevisan (Volos) an Italian.

Fadrhone was until recently Holland's technical director and Trevisan held a similar position with the Haiti World Cup squad.

There are also 21 foreign players in the Greek First Division comprising 14 South Americans, three Yugoslavians, two Germans a Swiss and a Frenchman. Best known of these are the Uruguayan forwards Viera and Julio Losada with Olympiakos and Swiss goalkeeper Rene Deck with PAOK Salonika.

Di Stefano resigns

ALFREDO Di Stefano's association with Sporting Lisbon took on Clough/Leeds proportions when he resigned soon after the start of the season.

He claimed that he had had a big row with the club's President. The former Real Madrid maestro also said: "I didn't realise a club like this could be as badly organised. Some of the players arrived for pre-season training on August 6, others on the 9th and another group came back on the 12th."

Anyway, the events have certainly had their repercussions on the field with St Etienne knocking them out of the European Cup and both Benfica and Porto showing better form in the League.

Benfica also had a comfortable, expected victory against Vanlose of Denmark in the Cup Winners Cup and Porto just edged through in the UEFA Cup over Wolves. Having taken a commanding 4-1 lead from their home leg, Porto rather unwisely yet perhaps understandably packed their team with defenders for the second leg at Molineux.

It almost cost them dearly as Wolves won this game 3-1.

There have been some fine individual goalscoring performances, too, notably by Jordao of Benfica who hit a hat-trick in a 4-0 victory over Farense and by the Brazilian Jeremia of Guimaraes who scored four of his team's five goals against Oriental.

Shock

Olhanense who handed out an opening day shock to Sporting Lisbon followed this five performance by drawing 2-2 at Benfica.

Vitoria Setubal were convincingly beaten by Real Zaragoza in the UEFA Cup losing in Spain by four clear goals after drawing at home 1-1.

PAUL WADE reports from

O'FARRE IRAN TO OVER

THE success of the whole of the Games depends on our winning the football," Frank O'Farrell told me at the Iranian soccer squad's training camp. Sitting outdoors on a warm evening before the Seventh Asian Games opened in Tehran, the former Manchester United manager was confident that the team he took over last May would reach the final.

Their opponents, he reckoned, would be the experienced Israelis. David Schwietzer, Israel's coach, agreed that Iran would make the final. "Iran are good, especially when playing at home, and their form in the World Cup where Australia narrowly beat them shows how good Iran can be."

And that's just how it worked out—though we had a lot of surprises, a lot of goals, and a lot of bickering before we got to the final.

The draw brought together South Korea, Kuwait and Thailand in Group A; North Korea, India, China and Iraq in Group B; Israel, Japan, Malaysia and the Philippines in Group C; Iran, Pakistan, Burma and Bahrein in Group D.

Newcomers

Only 5,000 people turned out on September 2 to see the experienced team from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea play the Games' other newcomers, China. The North Koreans had little trouble exposing China's naive defence, but Kuwait were lucky to beat Thailand. After scoring three goals in the first half, they eased up and let in two second half goals and the Thais hit the bar twice. Iraq looked efficient in beating India 3-0.

The next day 26 goals in four games livened things up. Iran's Mazlumi, a well built centre forward, hit a hat-trick in the expectedly easy win over Pakistan. Japan's Kamamoto scored from the kick-off against the Philippines and also completed a hat-trick. Damati of Israel followed suit, scoring three in Israel's drubbing of the Merdeka Cup holders, Malaysia, but showed weaknesses at left back and centre half as they conceded three goals.

Tournament

The smaller Malaysians never gave up and never stopped playing football—characteristics they maintained throughout the tournament. Burma had to work hard for their win over Bahrein who were watched with interest by the home crowds—after all, Bahrein are coached by Danny McLellan who was in charge of Iran before Frank O'Farrell came on the scene.

The first upset of the Games came on September 4, as Jassem Hazem of Iraq scored the only goal of a rough match to beat the 1966 World Cup finalists from North Korea. And China, so tame and unconvincing in their first match, found the net seven times against India, who managed to miss plenty of chances as well as a penalty, in a dreadful display. Thailand were eliminated from the Games, losing their second and final Group match to South Korea.

Seventeen more goals for the fans on September 5 as Pakistan bounced back against a demoralised Bahrein and the Philippines, too, were blasted again. Japan and Malaysia played out a tight entertaining draw but Iran had 72,000 fans on tenterhooks.

They were level one all with Burma until the 58th minute when Janmaleki got the winner for the lacklustre Iranians. On the Friday, Kuwait played incisive and attractive football to upset the joint defending champions from South Korea but both teams qualified for the next round out of Group A.

Practice

In Group B Iraq came out on top after a surprisingly difficult struggle with China. Throughout the Games Chinese competitors improved from day to day in all the sports. They were quick to learn through careful observation and diligent practice and they could have beaten Iraq as Wang not only missed a penalty but also an open goal minutes later.

North Korea were soon a goal down against India but fought back to win and so qualify for the next round. Group C and D were settled on Saturday 7th. Malaysia knew that to qualify they had to pile up the goals against the vulnerable Philippines, to compensate for the eight goals they had conceded in their opening game.

This seemed unlikely so it was a shock to us and to the Philippines when they notched up a record 11 goals (Mokhtar Dahari 5) while Japan, after holding Israel scoreless in the first half, let in three goals and went out of the competition.

In Group D, Burma gave Pakistan a one goal start before coming back to clinch their place in round 2 and Iran could afford to field their reserves against Bahrein and still win 6-0. This win convinced the Iranians of Frank O'Farrell's ability and also that Iran would win through to th final.

The tournament went into the semi-fina round (like the 1974 World Cup) and Ira were drawn with three erratic sides—Sout Korea, Iraq and Malaysia. Israel, wh qualified with North Korea, Kuwait an Burma, soon discovered that they woul only be playing one more match befor the final as both the North Koreans and th Kuwaitis (as they did in 1970) said i advance that they would not play them. S the final everyone had predicted was on th cards.

But Iran's players were still unconvince it seemed, as Iran after dominating th first half against Malaysia in their openin match of round 2, just couldn't score an the fickle 25,000 who turned up began t cheer Malaysia. However a banana-lik free kick by Parvin gave them the win.

Frank O'Farrell was deeply disappointe "but the main thing is that we won." I the other group match South Korea hel Iraq, who had won all three matche previously, to a 1-1 draw in a skilful an exciting match.

Impress

The next day Israel looked very co vincing, beating Burma. Kuwait backe by enthusiastic handclapping supporte continued to impress despite their lack experience. They conceded an early go and then missed some golden opportuniti before North Korea settled it in the secor half. Iran's confidence soared again September 13th as they beat South Kor 2-0 with both goals by Mazlumi. H second goal came as Iran were reduced 10 men after Ashtiani retaliated with punch to Pak's head after the Korean ha chopped him down.

Later Iraq and Malaysia drew 0-0 in match that ended with the Malaysia protecting the North Korean referee fro the angry Iraqi players who protested th

ehran on the Asian Games

ELL TAKES OVICTORY ISRAEL

he had blown his whistle too early. Kuwait showed that they might well be a side to watch in future as they beat Burma 5-2 o take third place in their group while Israel went through the farce of trotting out onto the pitch, then kicking off into the empty half of the field as the North Koreans did not show up. They were awarded the match 2-0.

On Friday the thirteenth, 85,000 turned out to see Iran, and again Frank O'Farrell was confident enough to field most of his reserves who responded by beating Iraq 1-0. The Iraqis showed a lot of skill and passed better but lacked thrust in the penalty area. Malaysia beat South Korea 3-2 in a see-saw match to make it through to the third and fourth place final. It was interesting that Malaysia got through after defeats at the hands of Israel and Iran.

Delegates

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PAUL WADE reports from T

O'FARRE IRAN TO OVER

THE success of the whole of the Games depends on our winning the football," Frank O'Farrell told me at the Iranian soccer squad's training camp. Sitting outdoors on a warm evening before the Seventh Asian Games opened in Tehran, the former Manchester United manager was confident that the team he took over last May would reach the final.

Their opponents, he reckoned, would be the experienced Israelis. David Schwietzer, Israel's coach, agreed that Iran would make the final. "Iran are good, especially when playing at home, and their form in the World Cup where Australia narrowly beat them shows how good Iran can be."

And that's just how it worked out—though we had a lot of surprises, a lot of goals, and a lot of bickering before we got to the final.

The draw brought together South Korea, Kuwait and Thailand in Group A; North Korea, India, China and Iraq in Group B; Israel, Japan, Malaysia and the Philippines in Group C; Iran, Pakistan, Burma and Bahrein in Group D.

Newcomers

Only 5,000 people turned out on September 2 to see the experienced team from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea play the Games' other newcomers, China. The North Koreans had little trouble exposing China's naive defence, but Kuwait were lucky to beat Thailand. After scoring three goals in the first half, they eased up and let in two second half goals and the Thais hit the bar twice. Iraq looked efficient in beating India 3-0.

The next day 26 goals in four games livened things up. Iran's Mazlumi, a well built centre forward, hit a hat-trick in the expectedly easy win over Pakistan. Japan's Kamamoto scored from the kick-off against the Philippines and also completed a hat-trick. Damati of Israel followed suit, scoring three in Israel's drubbing of the Merdeka Cup holders, Malaysia, but showed weaknesses at left back and centre half as they conceded three goals.

Tournament

The smaller Malaysians never gave up and never stopped playing football—characteristics they maintained throughout the tournament. Burma had to work hard for their win over Bahrein who were watched with interest by the home crowds—after all, Bahrein are coached by Danny McLellan who was in charge of Iran before Frank O'Farrell came on the scene.

The first upset of the Games came on September 4, as Jassem Hazem of Iraq scored the only goal of a rough match to beat the 1966 World Cup finalists from North Korea. And China, so tame and unconvincing in their first match, found the net seven times against India, who managed to miss plenty of chances as well as a penalty, in a dreadful display. Thailand were eliminated from the Games, losing their second and final Group match to South Korea.

Seventeen more goals for the fans on September 5 as Pakistan bounced back against a demoralised Bahrein and the Philippines, too, were blasted again. Japan and Malaysia played out a tight entertaining draw but Iran had 72,000 fans on tenterhooks.

They were level one all with Burma until the 58th minute when Janmaleki got the winner for the lacklustre Iranians. On the Friday, Kuwait played incisive and attractive football to upset the joint defending champions from South Korea but both teams qualified for the next round out of Group A.

Practice

In Group B Iraq came out on top after a surprisingly difficult struggle with China. Throughout the Games Chinese competitors improved from day to day in all the sports. They were quick to learn through careful observation and diligent practice and they could have beaten Iraq as Wang not only missed a penalty but also an open goal minutes later.

North Korea were soon a goal down against India but fought back to win and so qualify for the next round. Group C and D were settled on Saturday 7th. Malaysia knew that to qualify they had to pile up the goals against the vulnerable Philippines, to compensate for the eight goals they had conceded in their opening game.

This seemed unlikely so it was a shock to us and to the Philippines when they notched up a record 11 goals (Mokhtar Dahari 5) while Japan, after holding Israel scoreless in the first half, let in three goals and went out of the competition.

In Group D, Burma gave Pakistan a one goal start before coming back to clinch their place in round 2 and Iran could afford to field their reserves against Bahrein and still win 6-0. This win convinced the Iranians of Frank O'Farrell's ability and also that Iran would win through to the final.

The tournament went into the semi-final round (like the 1974 World Cup) and Iran were drawn with three erratic sides—South Korea, Iraq and Malaysia. Israel, who qualified with North Korea, Kuwait and Burma, soon discovered that they would only be playing one more match before the final as both the North Koreans and the Kuwaitis (as they did in 1970) said in advance that they would not play them. So the final everyone had predicted was on the cards.

But Iran's players were still unconvinced, it seemed, as Iran after dominating the first half against Malaysia in their opening match of round 2, just couldn't score and the fickle 25,000 who turned up began to cheer Malaysia. However a banana-like free kick by Parvin gave them the win.

Frank O'Farrell was deeply disappointed, "but the main thing is that we won." In the other group match South Korea held Iraq, who had won all three matches previously, to a 1-1 draw in a skilful and exciting match.

Impress

The next day Israel looked very convincing, beating Burma. Kuwait backed by enthusiastic handclapping supporters continued to impress despite their lack of experience. They conceded an early goal and then missed some golden opportunities before North Korea settled it in the second half. Iran's confidence soared again on September 13th as they beat South Korea 2-0 with both goals by Mazlumi. His second goal came as Iran were reduced to 10 men after Ashtiani retaliated with a punch to Pak's head after the Korean had chopped him down.

Later Iraq and Malaysia drew 0-0 in a match that ended with the Malaysians protecting the North Korean referee from the angry Iraqi players who protested that

Tehran on the Asian Games

ELL TAKES VICTORY ISRAEL

he had blown his whistle too early. Kuwait showed that they might well be a side to watch in future as they beat Burma 5-2 o take third place in their group while Israel went through the farce of trotting out onto the pitch, then kicking off into the empty half of the field as the North Koreans did not show up. They were awarded the match 2-0.

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WORLD SOCCER'S exclusive International Post-Mortem brings you reports, line-ups, goalscorers and highlights of the big games—compiled by ERIC BATTY and JACK ROLLIN

DOU BEAT

Denmark 1: Spain 2

THE Danes have not qualified in any major tournament in recent years but they have played key roles in taking points from Scotland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia at home in the Idraettsparken.

This time, Austrian team manager Ruddi Strittich sent his men out to try the strong arm stuff, and if the Spaniards were no angels it was the Danes who got the worst of the affair.

September 25

Denmark 1: Spain 2
Bulgaria 0: Rumania 0
Finland 1: Holland 3
Czechoslovakia 3: East Germany 1

September 28

Yugoslavia 1: Italy 0
Austria 1: Hungary 0

October 9

Denmark 2: Iceland 1
Poland 3: Finland 0

October 12

East Germany 1: Iceland 1
Belgium 2: France 1

October 13

Holland 1: Switzerland 0
Luxembourg 2: Hungary 4
Denmark 0: Rumania 0
Bulgaria 3: Greece 3
Czechoslovakia 4: Sweden 0
Argentina 1: Spain 1

The result was a dour game, more tactical than technical, and not at all the type the Danish FA needed to persuade their fans they have been missing good things by avoiding international matches in Copenhagen.

Brightening the general gloom were a string of saves by Spanish goalkeeper Iribar and a well taken goal by Roberto Martinez. Born in Argentina, he was the object of a Danish protest forwarded officially after the game.

Both defences looked to have the holding of their opponents though neither set of forwards were able to produce anything remarkable. For Denmark the major exceptions were the two "West German stars" Allen Simonsen and Henning Jensen, who stood out amongst their colleagues. Without them the Danes would have sunk without trace.

After almost half an hour of faltering football the referee intervened with a controversial decision. Quini and Asensi launched an attack and the latter, crashing down over the leg of Seneca saw the referee point to the spot. No one was sure whether or not it was deliberate but Claramunt struck the ball firmly and calmly to put Spain ahead.

The Spaniards had what appeared to be a better claim for a penalty soon afterwards when Seneca appeared to handle the ball. This time there was no response.

Shortly before half-time, a long hopeful pass from Castellanos down the right found Roberto Martinez, who appeared to have little chance of turning it into anything positive. But with impressive acceleration he surprised the Danish defence and from an impossible angle near the bye line, scored with a fierce left foot shot.

Two minutes after the break, Iribar produced a great save to a header by Simonsen at the expense of a corner and this led to Denmark's consolation goal. From the corner, Nygaard shot hard but wide and Bjerg retrieved the ball but was cut off by Sol. Bjerg tried a cross but the ball hit Sol and to the Spaniard's disgust the referee indicated another penalty. Now it was Nygaard's turn, left footed to give Iribar no chance.

Felled

If the Spaniards had the better of a poor first half, the Danes took control of a bad second. The probable turning point came just after the hour when Roberto Martinez, who had been hacked mercilessly throughout, was finally felled badly enough to make him go off with Garcia Soriano substituting. Almost immediately Claramunt (who had already been cautioned) was sent off under doubtful circumstanes and with ten men the Spaniards elected to defend. Now the Danes pressed forward but fortunately for Spain they met Iribar at his most confident, unflappable best.

Gustafsson, the Swedish goalkeeper, punches clear against Czechoslovakia.

Costa scores for France against Belgium.

R SPANIARDS T DULL DANES

Denmark (0) 1 (Nygaard pen.)
Spain (2) 2 (Claramunt pen., Martinez)
27,300

Denmark: Larsen; Mortensen, Munk Jensen, Seneca, Rasmussen, Sorensen, John Olsen, Nygaard, Simonsen, Henning Jensen, Holmstrom (Flindeberg).
Spain: Iribar; Sol, Benito, Capon, Jesus Martinez, Castellanos, Roberto Martinez (Reano), Claramunt, Asensi, Marcial, Quini.

Bulgaria 0: Rumania 0

WITH both teams deep in the doldrums this friendly could have provided an ideal booster to morale before the competitive games. As it was, however, both sets of defences took command and neither set of attacking players was able to produce the skill or initiative to plot a way through.

Christo Bonev has been out of form, suffering from having to carry the national team attack almost single-handed, and once more the most impressive Bulgarian was Bojil Kolev in midfield, who got through a great deal of work.

Stages

The Rumanians, creating a new young team without the stars who took them through to the last stages of the 1970 World Cup, never really looked like scoring and if Bulgaria had a slight edge a draw was the fairest result — and goal-less summed up the total lack of imaginative or penetrative attacking skill.

Finland 1: Holland 3

THE Dutch did only marginally better in Helsinki than did the obviously out of form Poles, though Holland had no excuses. Too often they have done just enough and it was a great pity that the Finnish crowd were not treated to a 90 minute 'festival'. The Finns currently believe that football is like athletics—all running—and they are immovable. Who at this time better than Johan Cruyff & Co at their superlative best to prove otherwise.

Alas, the Dutch beat them, but only in a manner that will allow the Finns to hang on to their 'anti-football' ideas, for this was no drubbing as it could have been with a complete show from Cruyff.

As in their previous European championship game against Poland, it was the Finns who took the lead, again through Rahja. The Dutch were a little shaken but soon began beating a path towards Holli in the Finland goal and dominated the middle period of the game. Cruyff equalised and then put Holland ahead just before the interval, but the Finns were still in it with a chance.

After the break Finland's hopes of a draw were dashed when Johan Nesskens made it 3-1 with a penalty kick. Neeskens, strong-arm man, good footballer, superb athlete, has developed into a dreaded marksman from the 10 yard spot. This was another Neeskens bomb, right-footed, hit like a rocket up high to the golkeeper's left hand. Always the same place—but hit with such power the goalkeeper barely sees it.

With Rijsbergen still unfit, the new Dutch manager (former Ajax chief Georg Knobel) drafted in midfield player Theo De Jong from Feyenoord to do the stopper job—and he did it well enough. With this change the Dutch were at full strength but for the absence of right back Suurbier and left winger Rensenbrink. They did what they had to do—and did it well—but no more.

Finland (1) 1 (Rahja)
Holland (2) 3 (Cruyff 2, Neeskens)
20,379

Finland: Holli; Saari, Toivo, Vihila, Ranta, Suomalainen, Heikkinen (Rissanen), Hukka (Toivola), Rahja, Pettersson, Pekkalainen.
Holland: Jongbloed; Van Israel, De Jong, Haan, Krol, Jansen, Neeskens, Van Hanegem, Rep, Cruyff, Rensel.

Czechoslovakia 3: EastGermany 1

IMPRESSED by the progress made by Poland in the World Cup, Czech boss Vaclav Jezek has re-introduced wing play and a slightly below strength DDR were put firmly in their place.

Apart from a brief set-back in the 21st minute when Martin Hoffman equalised, with his third long range attempt from around 20 yards, the Czechs made all the running in the first half.

Masny and Svehlik, the Slovan right wing pair, were always dangerous and when frequently joined by their club-mate Pivarnik, coming from full back, they took the East Germans apart. It was from the other flank, however, where the re-

● Continued on page 46

Transfer sagas in Spain—Keir Radnedge reports

World Cup men join new clubs after much discussion

TWO on-off-on again transfers have been making most of the headlines in Spain, with the players concerned both World Cup men—Mario Marinho and Ladislao Mazurkiewicz.

Brazil's 27-year-old centre back had been left in Spain by Santos after their European tour in August. They wanted £300,000 for Marinho—real name Mario Perez Ulibarri—but at that price neither CF Barcelona, Real Madrid nor Zaragoza were prepared to show more than a passing interest.

Marinho's family background is Spanish, so he is eligible to play in the league without infringing any of the two-foreigner-per-club rules and eventually Santos dropped their demands and accepted Barcelona's original £120,000 offer—for two reasons.

First, Santos wanted a sale to go through quickly for fear that CFB would lose interest after an early defeat in the Champions' Cup. And since Barcelona at this stage were soon due to face Feyenoord, that seemed a distinct possibility.

Secondly, Santos needed the money to go ahead and buy Dirceu Lopez, another World Cup man, from Cruzeiro, to strengthen the midfield and pacify fans angry at the failure to persuade Pele to postpone his retirement.

The penury to which Santos have been reduced had been amply demonstrated when they signed Peruvian midfield man Ramon Miflin from Racing Buenos Aires.

Payment

Santos arranged to borrow Miflin until Christmas from Racing, from whom they bought goalkeeper Augusto Cejas three years ago, on payment of £4,000. Then, if they were pleased with the player, they would pay another £16,000 to keep him.

It might not seem much for a star, but South American-style inflation is way behind the European variety when it comes to transfer fees. Anyway, perhaps that digression illustrates exactly why Santos were keen to seal the Marinho transfer.

Marinho, a trained economist, whose grandparents on his father's side were Spanish (!), is taking out the double insurance of acquiring Spanish citizenship.

On arrival back in Barcelona after a short trip to Brazil he went through all the usual woffle about how wonderful it was to be joining such a marvellous club, the fulfilment of an ambition . . . you know the cliches as well as I do.

But it did emerge that he had only finally decided to join Barcelona after a few words of encouragement from Evaristo de Macedo, Barcelona's Brazilian centre forward in their great days of the late fifties. No doubt Marinho hopes to be in on the start of another such era.

Mazurkiewicz had looked set to come to Spain immediately after the World Cup Finals—his Brazilian club, Atletico Mineiro, had agreed terms with Valencia, and a £100,000 transfer was in the offing.

But Atletico, though they too needed the cash, had a last-minute crisis of confidence. After all, Mazurkiewicz was a favourite with the fans and had saved the club from a lot of defeats.

In the end Valencia grew impatient and called off negotiations for the 29-year-old goalkeeper who has played in three World Cup final tournaments—in 1966, 1970 and again this summer.

Mazurkiewicz, by virtue of a Spanish-born mother, is another player who apparently qualifies to beat the Spanish registration rules, and Granada stepped in early in October to pick up where Valencia left off.

It was not a signing to please all the fans, who thought that Granada's real needs were more apparent in the fact that while they had conceded a mere two goals in the first three league matches, they had only scored once.

Strike

Spanish eyes had already been turning on Nacional of Montevideo, the 1971 world club champions, whose top professionals were on strike, claiming that they hadn't been paid since May. Nacional had replied that a few players would have to be sold before they could pay out any wages, and as one Granada fan put it: "What do we need with Mazurkiewicz? Izcoa is good enough. But Calandria might be of use." Miguel Calandria is Nacional's latest star striker.

Be that as it may, at least no-one in Spain was very upset when Jairzinho signed for Olympique Marseille in France. The general feeling is that Botafogo have had by far the best of that £113,000 deal!

Barcelona's transfer dealings, meanwhile, have not been solely confined to bringing in Marinho.

Hugo "Cholo" Sotil, his double nationality plea rejected by the Ministry for Sport, sits out all but CFB's friendly and European Cup games and isn't too happy—particularly as Barcelona seem to stonewall every question about reported transfer bids from abroad.

Absolute

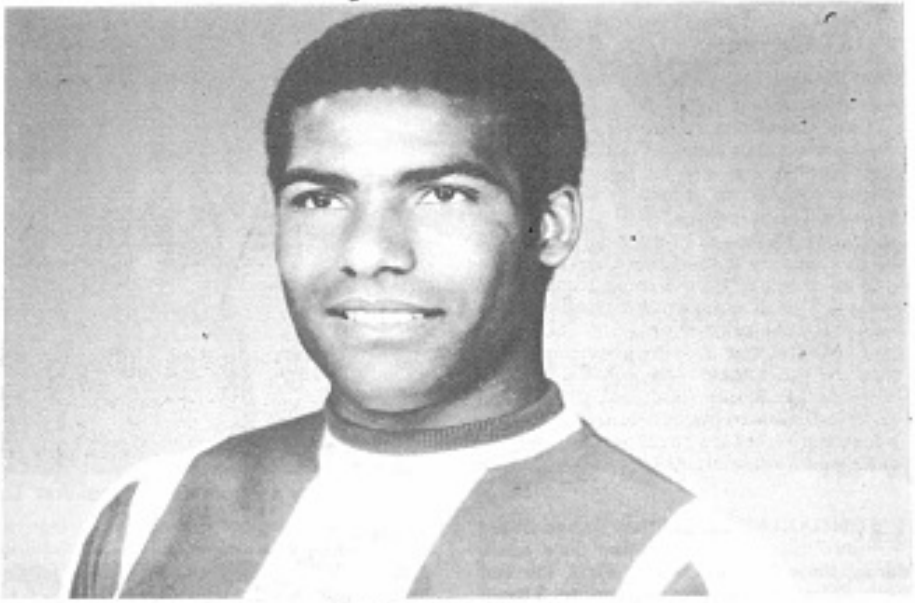
And now, to add a final custard pie to the absolute farce, CFB seem to have dug up some Spanish forebears for Juan Carlos Heredia, their "forgotten" Argentinian midfield man.

CFB signed 22-year-old Heredia—no relation to Atletico Madrid's World Cup man, Ramon Armando Heredia—when the frontiers were reopened 18 months ago. He and Sotil were to be CFB's two "official" foreigners.

Then CFB surprised even themselves by landing Cruyff, and so Heredia was farmed out on loan to Elche where he did quite well last term. Barcelona have just summoned him back. He's as Spanish as Don Quixote, they tell us now, and his registration forms are with the league already.

Focus on FC Porto

by Jack Rollin



Abel of FC Porto.

Too good for Wolves

PORTO'S decision to play rather defensively against Wolves at Molineux almost cost them their UEFA Cup tie. With a 4-1 lead from the first leg perhaps it was understandable that they would play this way, but in future European games it could prove a bad tactical error.

It was the fourth time they had played a team from the British Isles in Europe and was only their second success. In the 1967-68 Fairs Cup they went out to Hibernian but the next season they had a little more fortune when beating Cardiff City in the Cup Winners Cup.

In the 1969-70 season they lost to Newcastle United, also in the Fairs Cup, by the only goal of the game.

And it was in the old Fairs Cup that Porto enjoyed their most success reaching the third round in both the 1965-66 season and in 1972-73. In the former campaign they beat Stade Francais and Hannover 96 before losing to Bordeaux and two seasons ago defeated Barcelona and Bruges before going out to Dynamo Dresden.

The current side is going quite well in the Portuguese First Division at present and there are high hopes that they will put in their strongest challenge for the title since they won it last in 1958-59.

Last season in an effort to recapture old glories, they appointed Bela Guttmann, the 74-year-old Austro-Hungarian who was in charge of them when they last won the League. They had a reasonable season but never really recovered from the tragedy of losing their midfield player and international Pavao who collapsed and died on the field. Guttmann has since retired.

Successes

Founded in 1906, F.C. Porto are one of only four teams to have won the League in Portugal. They have had five such successes. Currently they are managed by Aimore Moreira who is a Brazilian and was in charge of the team which won the World Cup in 1962. He has an equally famous brother Zeze who also led a Brazilian and was in charge of the team which won the World Cup in 1962. He has an equally famous brother Zeze who also led a Brazilian World Cup squad before him.

Moreira has some useful players at his disposal, including the Brazilian Flavio, a 30-year-old who was capped 22 times for Brazil just before the 1966 World Cup. A fine striker, he has been a leading light in attack for the past couple of seasons.

However, the most well known international is another foreigner, Teofilo Cubillas, the Peruvian who starred for his country in the 1970 World Cup. Cubillas cost £97,000 when he was signed by the Swiss club Basel from Alianza in Peru in 1973 but could not settle down in the strange, cold climate of Switzerland.

After half a season Basel transferred him to Porto nearly a year ago now for a record fee for Portuguese football—reckoned to be around £200,000. Still only 25, Cubillas won 50 caps for Peru and has this season been switched to a more midfield role, which has suited him admirably.

Porto also made a couple of close season captures, most notable of whom was Murca from Belenenses a right back who has five full caps and is 26. Centre back Teixeira has come from Leixoes and at 22 looks equally promising. From Academica has come Simoes—not to be confused with the Benfica veteran but this one is Carlos Simoes a 23-year-old left back.

The club's most experienced player in terms of European games is Rolando, another centre back aged 30 who has had 15 caps for Portugal including one in the 1974 World Cup qualifying competition. He has played in all the ties against British teams in fact.

Another well known Porto forward is Abel, a 28-year-old who has played four times for his country and was on duty in the World Cup qualifying competition too, against Northern Ireland. Abel and Flavio have worked particularly well together up front.

Without doubt the biggest hit of the season has been teenage winger Manuel Gomes, who started off the term by getting two goals in the opening League game. He played eight times for the Portuguese youth team and seems at 18, likely to add to these honours in the near future.

Though Rolando has skippered the side in recent games the usual captain is Vieira Nunes, a midfield general who is now 29 and won one cap at Under-23 level for his country. He also appeared in the team against Newcastle United in the 1969-70 Fairs Cup competition.

Twenty-year-old midfield player Rodolfo has also been showing good form of late and has two youth and one Under-23 honour to his credit. And the club's next full international could well become goalkeeper Tibi, only 23 and despite being prone to the occasional classic error, has the right temperament for international football. He has already won two Under-23 honours.

Back after military service has come forward Lemos a 24-year-old with three Under-23 appearances and likely to be pressing for a regular berth in the team. Forward or midfield player Oliviera (22) won seven youth caps and has also been staking a claim for more senior opportunities.

Midfield player Marco Aurelio (24) has been in and out of the side and often only gets a chance as substitute, Leopoldo (25) plays at full-back and is another to be trying to establish himself in the first team, as has Laurindo (30) after a period out of favour but often brought back for his ability to play either in defence or attack. And he has a full cap for Portugal, too.

Against Wolves in the second leg, Porto used another centre back Gabriel and this is an area where there are several candidates waiting in the wings. New signing from Farense Alhinho II is one of them and another is Nino. Reserve midfield player Ailton played well in pre-season friendlies and the staff is completed by two forwards Sobral and Maia and reserve goalkeepers Rui (32) with 19 youth caps as a boy and 15 for the Portuguese Military team plus Quim (20) who won two youth caps.

Porto, once managed by Tommy Docherty in an 18 month spell up to 1971, have, like Manchester United, made a useful start to both domestic and European campaigns and it could well prove to be their best season since 1959.

Nagy scores Hungary's second goal against Luxemburg.

Good and bad news

by Leslie Vernon

HUNGARIAN football has demonstrated its "curate's egg" nature once again during these last few weeks. First, the bad parts. The national eleven went to Vienna for a friendly and lost 1-0 to the old enemy. As this was Jozsef Bozsik's first selection and presumably the beginning of a new era, there was a sense of curiosity and anticipation about the match not usually associated with mere warm-up games.

True to his avowed belief that a young squad must be blooded for the forthcoming battles ahead, the team manager picked an inexperienced side based in a rather haphazard fashion, on the victorious Under-23 eleven. I am always suspicious of managers who talk about building for the future as a possible cover-up for current failures.

Proven ability should be the criteria, not some yet unfulfilled promise. A mediocre youngster has every chance to develop into a mediocre player by the time he is in the "middle-age" of his football life. To be fair to Bozsik, his counterpart, Leopold Statsny, also experimented, and in the absence of the mercenaries, Jara and Kreuz, had to rely on local-based players.

Intercept

The only goal of the match was scored in the 16th minute, when Hattenberg—the star of the match—cut in, left Janos Nagy trailing, and his centre was headed home by the dynamic Krankl. Meszaros stayed put on his line, and had no chance to prevent the goal once he had failed to intercept the cross.

In the second-half, the Hungarians brought on Peter Torok, the Vasas player, in place of Poczik, and he put the brake on Starek, thus cutting-off the supply of passes to the Austrian front-runners. The visitors hit the post twice, but the result—justly—remained unchanged.

"The worst Hungarian team I have seen for five years," wrote a Budapest journalist with a short memory. "The worst I have ever seen," said an Austrian reporter with a longer one.

Let us examine the individuals who gave the Magyars such a sorry send-off to the '74/75 international season.

Ferenc Meszaros (Vasas, 24). An acrobatic goalkeeper, who often sacrifices "safety" for aerial spectaculars. I wouldn't quarrel with his selection, but find it astonishing, that Karoly Szigeti, who has played only a few games for Dozsa, was preferred to the excellent Istvan Geczi as first reserve.

Janos Nagy (Videoton, 24). There is a dearth of reliable full-backs in Hungary, but the little known Nagy's inclusion was still a surprise. He had a poorish game, as he was obviously overawed by the occasion.

Laszlo Harsanyi (Dozsa, 23). A very good centre-back who was chosen rather than the even better Balint because of his understanding with clubmate Horvath.

Jozsef Horvath (Dozsa, 25). One of the few successes of the afternoon. This tall defender played a real captain's part in the proceedings, often foiling Austrian raids single-handed.

Mihaly Kantor (Vasas, 22). A crude, hard-tackling left full-back, who might be a good bet for the future. But his lack of finesse was exposed by the sophisticated Austrians.

Laszlo Fazekas (Dozsa, 27). The last Mohican to be allowed to survive the wholesale purge. Quite brilliant, would be an asset to any team in Europe.

Laszlo Karsai (Videoton, 27). Back in favour after a four years' long absence. Good on the ball, but lacks aggression. His distribution was below par on this occasion.

Jozsef Poczik (Raba Eto, 21). One shouldn't be too harsh on such a young player, but I feel that Poczik's selection were merely a gesture of encouragement to footballers attached to provincial clubs.

Laszlo Fekete (Dozsa, 20). A really good, fast, orthodox winger, who deserves an extended run in the national team.

Miklos Kozma (Honved, 25). He has been the great white hope of Hungarian football as far back as 1969, when I saw him making his debut in the national jersey in Dublin. Since then, he has shown a lack of fight in the penalty box. Although Kozma is the most consistent goalscorer in league football, he has no stomach for international combat.

Jozsef Becsei (MTK, 24). A self-indulgent ball juggler, who hasn't yet realised that football is a team game.

Although the average age of the side was slightly below 24, they showed none of the exuberance of youth. In my view, a rapid re-think is imperative if Hungary are to do reasonably well in the European Championship.

Bozsik's main objectives are the Olympic Games in Montreal, and qualification for the '78 World Cup. But he must not disregard the prestige involved in the more immediate task ahead. He could do worse than to base his selections on the teams which did so well in the first rounds of the European Cups.

These highly praiseworthy performances were the "good parts" of the above mentioned "egg". I saw Ferencvaros in Cardiff, and I am certain that this side that Dalnoki built has a very bright future. Laszlo Takacs, a pocket-size midfielder with only a handful of appearances under his belt, gave a performance worthy of Billy Bremner (with his shirt on).

Before the first Fradi goal, Takacs, 19, dribbled past four defenders, then cheekily drew the goalkeeper, and then elegantly pushed the ball home.

The other youngsters, especially Szabo, also did well, and their performance prompted a young reporter to ask Mike Smith, the Wales manager, whether he thought Ferencvaros were a better team than Hungary.

"The national team played Austria, Fradi played Cardiff," answered Smith diplomatically.

● Continued on page 44

News from
YUGOSLAVIA

Red Star survive decimation

AFTER the World Cup, the annual exodus of Yugoslav players began and this year the drain was no heavier than usual but more crippling because of the quality of players that signed for foreign clubs. In addition, several of the top managers and coaches have also left the country—headed by World Cup boss Miljan Miljanic who has, of course, taken over Real Madrid.

One of the biggest to suffer were Red Star, the Belgrade club that eliminated Liverpool from the European Cup last season and provided several players for the World Cup. Three Red Star players are now playing abroad—inside right Stanislav Karasi with Lille (France) and stopper Miroslav Pavlovic for FC Diest in Belgium, both full internationals plus the uncapped stopper Kiril Dojcinovski has joined World Cup right winger Ilija Petkovic in France with Troyes. But in addition, Petar Krivokuca, Jovan Acimovic and Vladislav Bogicevic, all veteran internationals, have begun their military service (one year).

However, Red Star's depth of reserve talent has always been impressive and new manager Mihic, the former youth coach of Petronic, who has taken over the Red Star job, has made a tremendous star, taking the club to the top of the table and at the moment holding a two point lead over the champions Hajduk Split.

Signed

Another World Cup player to go is Enver Hadziabdic to Charleroi (Belgium) and the free scoring OFK leader Slobodan Santrac, who was in the 40, has signed for Grasshoppers (Switzerland). Vahidir Musemic, the Sarajevo international centre forward signed for OGC Nice, and hardly any club is left untouched by transfers abroad or military service.

An addition to Miljanic, his chief World Cup assistant Milovan Ciric has taken over Valencia; B Team manager Ivan Toplak has returned to coach in the USA and while former national boss Rajko Mitic prefers his work as a journalist to the chancy business of running the national team, the man Miljanic replaced, Vujadin Boskov, has also quit the country and now manages FC Den Haag in Holland.

This left the FA with a real headache, with no one of the necessary experience available. Finally, a temporary appointment was made, bringing former FA Youth coach Ant Mladinic into prominence. Among the managerial changes at club level, Todor Veselinovic has come back from Colombia to take over Vojvodina; former Sarajevo player Mirsad Fazlagic is now boss of his old club; Partizan try again with yet another new coach—Milan Damjanovic, one of their own ex-players while newly promoted FC Rijeka have appointed Gojko Zec, a former OFK player who was one of Partizan's bosses last season.

OFK Beograd, without the departed Santrac to get goals, were expected to struggle but under former international goalkeeper Milutin Soskic they have got off to a good start, winning 3-1 away to Dynamo Zagreb on the opening day and then beating Zeljeznicar 1-0 in midweek. Since then they have beaten Partizan 2-0 in the local derby and even after losing goalkeeper Sacipovic (who hit his head on a post) also beat Celik Zenica 4-2.

Tragically by the time the player arrived in hospital, he was dead. Only a few weeks earlier during a training session, another player Slobodan Jocik was struck by lightning and killed.

Hajduk Split, the reigning champions, got off to a bad start with a 0-2 defeat away to Vojvodina at Novi Sad, but have pulled back to within two points of the top. They beat Radnicki Kragujevak 4-0 (Jure Jerkovic scoring two) and in the following game Branko Oblak got both goals in a 2-1 win away to Dynamo Zagreb. The next week-end, a crowd of 20,000 saw Hajduk (at home) beat Zeljeznicar 3-0. Before the kick off, Oblak received the Golden Shoe—the best player of 1973-74.

That 20,000 crowd is the best so far—a long way below the standards of the 1960's. In 1965, for example, though many teams were already receiving poor support, Red Star pulled in a 75,000 crowd for their local derby v Partizan and a few weeks later another 70,000 turned out to see Red Star meet Dynamo Zagreb.

Average

Live TV, other interests and defensive tactics are the reasons put forward for the slump—no different to other countries. Just how defensive the Yugoslavs have become can be gauged from the fact that at the moment no less than 10 of the 18 First Division clubs have failed to score an average of more than one goal per game.

The heaviest scorers, Red Star and Hajduk, will probably decide the championship between them, though Vojvodina are also handily placed. The last named blotted their copy book in the last outings—beaten 0-2 away to Red Star. Until then they were ahead of Hajduk and level on points with Red Star and unbeaten had a goals tally of 8-1.

Partizan Belgrade are obviously still in difficulties. In fact they have never really recovered since losing most of their team that reached the 1966 European Cup Final, to foreign clubs. They are now amongst the relegation pair with only FK Bor below them. They will not be helped by the fact that Nenad Bjekovic, their international forward who played in the first few games, has now joined the army.

Dragan Dzajic, still with Red Star.

SOUTH AMERICAN ROUND-UP

by ERIC WEIL

Boca Juniors and Talleres top tables

IN Argentina the national championship has reached the half-way stage with 36 clubs—the 18 Metropolitan First Division teams and 18 non-league provincial teams which qualified through regional tournaments and on gate receipt records—having played nine matches (one against each other and one "derby" match against a club in another section). The top two from each section enter an eight-team final pool.

Section A has been topped all the way by Boca Juniors—one of two unbeaten teams—who have been trying to play good attacking soccer amid the mediocre, while national champions Rosario Central—basing their play more on counter-attack (with international insider Mario Kempes in fine form and jointly topping the scorers table with 10 goals)—have been in second spot all the way.

Section B has been the surprise with non-league Talleres (Cordoba)—the other unbeaten team—as comfortable leaders, while another non-league provincial club, Altos Hornos from far off Jujuy, are joint second with Buenos Aires minnows Argentinos Juniors.

Talleres have a number of former Buenos Aires First Division professionals on their books—including veteran international Daniel Willington who is frequently brought on in the second half to score or make a point-saving goal. They are also coached by ex-River Plate player and coach, Angel Labruna—the most successful of recent River Plate coaches.

Meanwhile this season's Metropolitan champions, out-of-form Newell's Old Boys, and giant River Plate—now coached by last year's national team manager Omar Sivori (also an ex-player of theirs before teaming up with John Charles for Italy's Juventus)—can't get into leading places. Internal squabbles at River Plate continue—recently between Sivori and the directors.

Poor start

Section C has been topped all the way by surging San Lorenzo, while Racing Club, after a poor start, have moved up to second place.

Section D is the closest with Huracan, Independiente and Valez Sarsfield as joint leaders and San Martin (Mendoza)—the strongest non-league provincials over recent years—only a point behind.

But Independiente lost a one-point lead the previous week when they fielded an entire reserve team because they were due to play a Libertadores Cup match in Montevideo three days later and

Marchetti (River Plate) heads for a corner against Boca Juniors in the classic match between Argentina's two "big" clubs. Boca won 1-0.

CLASSIFIED RESULTS

GROUP "A"
SEPTEMBER 4

Huracan (Argentina) (0) 1 (Brindisi)
Independiente (Argentina) (0) 1 (Bocchini) 25,000

Huracan: Leyes, Suñe, Fanessi, Basile, Carrascosa, Brindisi, Russo, Babington, Houseman, Larrosa, Gramajo (Avallay).
Independiente: Gay, Sá, Lopez, Semenewicz, Pavoni, Galvan, Raimondo, Sagioratto, Balbuena, Bocchini, Bertoni. Referee: O. Delgado (Colombia).

SEPTEMBER 11

Peñarol (Uruguay) (0) 1 (Silva)
Huracan (Argentina) (1) 1 (Larrosa) 40,000

Peñarol: Corbo, Gonzalez, Sandoval, Garisto, Fernandez, Unanue (Garcia), Acosta, Silva, Santelli, Morena, Quevedo.
Huracan: Leyes, Suñe, Finessi, Basile, Carrascosa, Brindisi, Russo, Larrosa, Houseman, Avallay, Gramajo. Referee: A. Coelho (Brazil).

GROUP "B"
SEPTEMBER 8

Millionarios (Colombia) (0) 0
Sao Paulo (Brazil) (0) 0 60,000

Millionarios: Truccia, Hernandez, Rodriguez, E. Gonzalez, J. Gonzalez, Segrera, Waltinho, Galaxe, Ortiz, Brand, Maglioni.
Sao Paulo: Perez, Nelson, Paranhos, Arlindo, Gilberto, Chicao, Ademir, Rocha, Mauro, Mirandhina, Piau. Referee: V. Llobregat (Venezuela).

SEPTEMBER 11

Defensor Lima (Peru) (0) 0
Sao Paulo (Brazil) (0) 1 (Mirandinha)

Def. Lima: Verderi, Navarro, Stucchi, Barreto, Trigueros, Barbadillo, Manrique, Parraga, P. Gonzalez, F. Gonzalez, Bailetti.
Sao Paulo: Waldir, Partico, Nelson, Paranhos, Gilberto, Chicao, Adhemir, Rocha, Mauro, Mirandinha, Terto.

Scotta scores for Racing Club against Mar del Plata's Aldosivi Club. Racing won 3-1. The night match was on television and fans stayed at home to watch.

Huracan have announced they will do the same thing next week-end for the same reason.

Huracan's mid-field man Carlos Babington—one of Argentina's few World Cup successes in West Germany and called "el inglés" because of his British ancestry—is the championship's other leading scorer with 10 goals.

Fielding weak teams is not penalised here as in England—yet it is still difficult to understand why clubs do it when it can lose them a real chance to win a national title which, in turn, gives them entry into the following year's Libertadores Cup.

Such things, as well as the low standard of soccer, are keeping gates down—and producing a loss for nearly every club in the championship. As a result of the tremendous distances to be covered—example: Argentinos Juniors has to travel 1,700 km to play Altos Hornos and vice-versa—travelling and hotel expenses are high.

Sporting gain

Clubs have already gone to the government for help and some of it will come from official football pool earnings. The national championship is a sporting gain, but a financial loss.

The recent meeting of Argentina's two top clubs, Boca Juniors and River Plate, was exciting all the way with Boca winning 1-0 . . . perhaps too exciting for the fans who filled the Boca stadium to overflowing and there was trouble before and after the match in spite of the 200 policemen inside the stadium.

As often happens, too many seats (some without numbers) were sold and more than one fan tried to sit on the same seat—causing the usual rows. After the final whistle fans from both teams threw stones at each other, many arrests were made and some 50 people had to be treated in the stadium's first-aid room.

A week later Mendoza's Godoy Cruz were beaten 1-0 at home by Chacarita. The fans didn't like it, attacked the referee and the Buenos Aires players as they left the stadium, seriously injuring one. Fans and police were injured and many arrests were made.

IN BRAZIL, Santos are slipping down the table of the Sao Paulo State League after a good start and it looks as if Pele, who retired in October, is not going to say goodbye with a league title.

Santos still have a chance—five points behind leaders Portuguesa and with three games in hand, but they are dropping points against the big teams. Last week's big match between Santos and Sao Paulo ended 1-1.

But in Minas Gerais a man has just won what must be a world record on the football pools—2,000,083 dollars.

IN URUGUAY the First Division championship has just started and Peñarol—younger, faster and just back from a successful European tour—are favoured to retain the title.

But after two matches there are five leaders and no team with full points.

IN CHILE, Colo Colo won the Chilean Cup—a two-metre high silver trophy played for the first time this year between First and Second Division clubs and provincial selections.

Gates were unbelievably low—as mentioned in last month's World Soccer—but 60,000 watched Colo Colo beat Wanderers 3-0 in the final.

Colo Colo, Palestino (both with a game in hand), Green Cross and Concepcion now lead the First Division after four games.

IN PERU, Universitario de Deportes took over a one-point lead from newly promoted Union Huaral—the season's sensation—after 25 games.

IN COLOMBIA, vice-champions Deportivo Cali have gone through seven games with no goals against and lead the First Division (second part) by three points, and a game in hand, over Nacional. There are five games to go.

IN VENEZUELA, Estudiantes look like winning the title for the first time.

With only three games to go they lead by three points in spite of losing their last match 1-0 to second-placed Portuguesa in this eight-team tournament in which teams play each other four times.

SEMI-FINAL group play in the Libertadores Cup started with four close games from which four players were sent off and two possible finalists emerged—Huracan (Argentina) and Sao Paulo (Brazil).

In group A, Huracan drew 1-1 with Cup holders Independiente (also of Argentina) after outplaying them for most of the way. Babington (H) and Galvan (I) were sent off for fighting five minutes before half-time.

Then Huracan, minus suspended Babington, went to Montevideo to face the group's third participant, Peñarol, and gained a valuable away point with another 1-1 draw. Peñarol—playing in the Cup for the 14th time (more than any other club) with a number of new players and just back from a successful European tour—marked closely from the start and dominated territorially with international centre-forward Morena's many dangerous shots well-saved by Huracan goalie Leyes. Huracan missed a second half penalty, but played the more intelligent game.

Penalty

Brazilian vice-champions Sao Paulo started off well in group B with three points from their two away matches. In Bogotá, against Colombian champions Millionarios, they were on the defensive for long periods, but held out for a 0-0 draw in which their goalie Valdir Perez was the man of the match. In Lima, a week later, they beat Defensor Lima 1-0 with a goal six minutes from the end. In the first half Maranhos (SP) and Gonzales (DL) were sent off.

In Argentina, World Cup coach Vladislao Cup resigned—because, he said, he had lost the confidence of players and club directors—and was replaced by Huracan's coach Cesar Menotti who will not give up his club post.

In Brazil, World Cup coach "Lobo" Zagalo is unlikely to continue and his most likely successor is Waldir Pereira "Didi" who played for Brazil in two World Cups and took Peru to the World Cup finals for the first time in 1970 as coach.

Looking a

IS T OU IT

Franco Causio of Juventus and Italy.

IS the general, the "scheming" inside-forward, out of date? They were saying so in Italy even before the World Cup. Since the World Cup, the absolute eclipse of Rivera and the discarding of Mazzola, it has been still more the cry. The young manager of Ternana, a Tuscan called Enzo Riccomini, has trumpeted that he has for long been convinced that the schemer is a mere luxury, for whom the other nine outfield players have to run, that the burden should ideally be spread about all ten.

I think this is utter nonsense, and am amazed that any serious critic could seriously sustain it, given the facts of the World Cup itself. Which teams reached the Final? Why, Holland and West Germany. Which were said most perfectly to represent Total Football? The same. And did not both teams possess a classical, constructive inside-forward, Holland in Wim Van Hanegem, West Germany in Wolfgang Overath?

One well known English coach, indeed, stigmatised Van Hanegem, when I was praising him, for being "lazy" I myself had felt that Holland's pattern of "total" football was considerably affected by the inclusion of a key player who was deliberative and a little static, instead of one, Gerry Muhren, who affected the style of perpetual motion.

As for Overath, whose "quarter back" style of striking long balls made him so great a success in the 1970 World Cup, he was playing his third World Cup in West Germany, and was hardly able at such a stage to change his spots; or style. Both were the essential orchestrators of their teams; the more so, in Overath's case, as Franz Beckenbauer had such a cautious World Cup.

Poland, who came third, would not have been half the team without the splendid Deyna, another midfield inside-forward of classical qualities; perhaps the finest in the whole tournament. He was more mobile than Van Hanegem, he was a better finisher than Overath, and was a splendid purveyor of passes to that excellent front three of Lato, Szarmach and Gadocha.

Generals

Ironically, such as Signor Riccomini was insisting that generals have effectively been cashiered, the Italians themselves have thrown up a remarkable one in Giancarlo Antognoni. This fair-haired, 20-year-old Perugian, who plays for Fiorentina and cost them a small fortune when they had to buy in their half share of him from the D Division Astimaacobi club, had a superb game when the Italian Under-23 side embarrassed their seniors in a trial match at Lucca.

When a return was played in Rome, no fewer than 60,000 supporters thronged into the Olympic Stadium to see the seniors win 5-2; which suggests that football in Italy has scarcely died, after their failure in Stuttgart!

Fulvio Bernardini, the new (or old, if you are going by his 68 distinguished years!) team manager of Italy does not want to rush Antognoni, who has been called a second Rivera, but the moment when he is capped for Italy cannot be very far off.

Meanwhile, the first public accusation against our old acquaintance Italo Allodi of manipulating referees was made by the referee Toselli in the *CORRIERE DELLA SERA*. He alleged that a couple of days before he was due to referee the vital derby match between Juventus and Torino in March, 1973, Allodi, the General Manager of Juventus, had telephoned him and told him to "referee his best". This he had done, giving Torino a penalty and sending off the Juventus forward Causio for abusing him.

That, says Toselli, was that: and mark that the match took place in that very month when the notorious Solti travelled to Lisbon to try to bribe Lobo to favour Juventus against Derby. For the rest of that season, either Toselli had no match to referee, or it was a match in *Serie B*, Division Two.

Company

In May, when the Final of the European Cup was played in Belgrade, he says that his linesman, Brambilla, travelled there in company with Allodi, and was told by him: "Toselli is finished as a referee," that everybody thought he was a Milan-favourer, and that the officials did not know where to send him.

When next the two met, Toselli said bitterly, "Congratulations, you have done a good job, you have managed to influence my chiefs and see that I don't referee any more. I haven't got it in for you, because you've just been promoting the interests of your club, but I've got it in for the fellow who hasn't looked after the interests of the referees."

t soccer with Brian Glanville

HE GENERAL T OF DATE? HINK NOT!

FIFA'S October visit to Argentina to examine the state of the 1978 World Cup preparations was, in the circumstances, somewhat irrelevant. Personally, I still hope the World Cup can take place in Argentina, where the intention is to have the Final in the River Plate Stadium; but is there much chance?

The political situation is quite frightening. In West Germany, it was the Arab terrorists we were all worried about, but the West Germans themselves mounted a solid, massive and enormously successful security operation which brought the World Cup safely through to its conclusion.

It was significant that while almost everybody else was doing cartwheels to compromise his principles and let the Chinese in, the swimming authorities stood very firm, and exacted concessions from the Chinese, before they would allow them to participate.

So could FIFA, if they have the guts; which is increasingly doubtful. I still think that to throw out Taiwan just because they want Red China in would be a disgraceful piece of cynicism. And, quite frankly, who cares whether Red China stay out, in their present state of inchoate and incoherent football?

What a fascinating European cocktail we have now, at Real Madrid! Miljan Miljanic has persuaded Santiago Bernabeu not to sell Gunter Netzer, after he had unsuccessfully touted him round Germany during the World Cup, swooped in for Breitner, and pushed him up into midfield in the—apparently justified—hope that he would give Netzer a new lease of life.

Miljanic himself needs some kind of re-affirmation, after the disappointing performance of the Yugoslavs in the World Cup, his clash with Dragan Dzajic over his defensive tactics.

In Spanish Championship and Cup Winners Cup alike, be and Real would seem to have a palpable chance.

Menaced

In Argentina, it is the very Government itself which is menaced, as one knew it must be, after the death of Peron. There are suggestions, at the time of writing — which for all I know may even be implemented by the time of reading — that another military dictatorship will eventually be imposed.

Yet even in that case, the fear of kidnapping and guerilla activity is likely to remain very real. I think the Brazilians had better be ready and waiting.

In March, our energetic new million dollar (for that is approximately what it cost him) FIFA President, Joao Havelange, will be on the move again; to Peking. Is his journey really necessary? Do we really care so much about having or not having the myriad Chinese in world competition.

It was pitifully obvious in Teheran, when the much smaller North Koreans took them apart, that they are desperately in need of international competition, to iron out the crudities. They bowled the little Koreans over like skittles, picked them up with Oriental courtesy, but apparently had no idea how to score goals.

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MULLER WILL BE MISSED

ARTHUR ROTMIL reports on the scene in West Germany

GERMAN soccer fans who feared that history might repeat itself, heaved a sigh of relief when the national side appearing for the first time since winning the World Cup beat Switzerland in Basel by 2-1. Twenty years ago, when the Germans became world champions for the first time in their history, the victorious team, ravaged by jaundice, virtually disintegrated and lost its first three matches (against Belgium, France and England), that followed their world final triumph over Hungary.

This time even the absence of four members from the world champion XI made little difference to their overall performance. The men who had apparently retired from international football were Gerd Müller, who gave valid family reasons for not wishing to be considered, Wolfgang Overath, who feels that at 31 there are no more peaks to scale; Jürgen Grabowski, whose late decision to withdraw came as a surprise and finally Paul Breitner, whose contract with his new club Real Madrid makes no provision for a release for internationals and whose availability was not even demanded by manager Helmut Schön.

Perhaps the player missed most will in time prove to be Gerd Müller, whose record of 68 goals in 62 internationals will not so easily be beaten. The German attack having relied for so long on Müller's lethal finishing will have to be orientated anew. Quite clearly the accent on executing scoring moves instead of being concentrated to the point of a rapier, will have to be spread more evenly—like along a sharp blade, for want of a better comparison. In other words, the responsibility for the final thrust will have to be shared between the strikers.

Introduction

In Basel Helmut Schön used Bernd Hölzenbein in the central striking role, with Geye and Herzog on the wings. After the introduction of Wolfgang Seel at half time, the Germans fielded three forwards from Fortuna Düsseldorf—a new club force in that country, namely Geye, Seel and Herzog. Both German goals were scored with headers by Cullmann and Geye. Bernd Cullmann has so far scored four goals for the national team—all with headers! Next assignment of the national side will be the European Championship match against Greece in Athens on November 30.

The defence picks itself: Maier in goal, Vogts, Beckenbauer, Schwarzenbeck and Helmut Kremers (for Breitner) at the rear. Hoeness, Bonhof and Cullmann (for Overath), should keep their places in midfield. Against the Swiss the three front men were Geye (for Grabowski), Hölzenbein (moved to the centre for Müller) and in his place Herzog on the wing. It is in this department that manager Schön will most likely try out some new variations.

In the *Bundesliga* championship the title holders Bayern Munich have recovered from their traumatic start when they lost the opening game to Kickers Offenbach by 6-0! Three victories followed, until the Bavarians slumped in their fifth match to bottom-of-the-table Wuppertal by 3-1. Bayern figured in the most exciting match of the campaign so far. In the game against Cologne in Munich's Olympic stadium, the champions trailed by 1-3, yet they pulled back brilliantly to win by 6-3!

Home record

Possibly Bayern were beginning to feel the pressure of their remarkable home record: They had not lost a league match on their own ground since the 23rd March 1970, in 73 encounters! This fantastic series ended on September 28, when before a crowd of 73,000 in Munich, Schalke at last beat Bayern by 2-0!

Bayern incidentally have been strengthened by the acquisition of the Swedish international defender Björn Anderson who comes from Oester Vaxjö. The 23-year-old back, who has 15 caps for Sweden, cost Bayern £100,000 and will transfer to Munich in November. He is the fourth Scandinavian on Bayern's books, the others being Conny Torstensson (Sweden), Johnny Hansen and Viggo Jensen (both from Denmark). The club will probably sell at least one of them, since they are not allowed to field more than two foreigners in a match.

Surprise

The crop of surprise results is naturally contributing to the increased interest in the championship. Attendances have been well up on average, especially with clubs who have started strongly. This applies particularly to the leaders Hamburger SV, whose manager Kuno Klötzer (52) has bought wisely and could go far with the team which came close to winning the Cup.

Hamburg have an excellent goalkeeper in Rudi Kargus, two fine midfield organisers in Klaus Zaczyk and the Dane Ole Björnmose and a great orthodox left winger in Georg Volkert, whom many experts and fans want to see in the national side, but who has failed to impress the national chief. And when newcomer Willi Reimann lives up to his reputation as a deadly marksman, then Hamburg could conceivably even grab the title.

Gerd Muller.

Cup holders Eintracht Frankfurt are also making an impact in the League, with their World Cup aces Grabowski and Hölzenbein playing as well as ever and the youngsters like Karl-Heinz Körbel (19), Peter Reichal (22) and Wolfgang Kraus (21) rapidly developing into stars of the future. Another club which recovered from a bad start are Borussia Mönchengladbach. Weisweiler's squad was decimated by injuries, with the entire midfield trio of Wimmer, Danner and Kulik out of action in the early stages of the championship.

That Germany now boasts a profusion of young talent was demonstrated recently, when a B-team defeated the full national side of Luxembourg which included five of their foreign "mercenaries", by 5-0, in Luxembourg

Batteux hits out at Kovacs

by ANDRE DUCLOS

HOW sad that at the very moment when French football seemed to be in the ascendant, with Poland so surprisingly beaten in Wroclaw, Albert Batteux should have fired his heavy batteries at Stefan Kovacs.

When the little Rumanian coach arrived in France to take over the national team, Batteux, that fine manager, the man in charge of the famous 1958 French World Cup team, said he was solidly behind him. But now, in a newspaper interview, he has had this to say: "He arrives in France talking of rigour, modern football, irreversible evolution. And here is a boy like Guillou transforming and transcending 'his' France team. But Guillou is exactly the opposite of the modern player as one now conceives him. He would have been the most 'Reims-ish' of the great Reims team! Why, then, doesn't Kovacs, who is a pragmatist, want to recognise such evidence? He's a puppet, whose demagogy consists of saying what people would like to hear him say . . . The French team belongs to me as much as to Kovacs."

But does it? In so far as Batteux is French, Kovacs a Rumanian, then perhaps it does. In so far as Kovacs is the manager and selector while Batteux has nothing at all to do with it, then this is manifestly nonsense. It was also surely wrong of Batteux to make such a root and branch attack at such a delicate moment, with the French team flushed by its victory in Poland, preparing to confront Belgium, as they did in the recent European Championship game. It does, I am afraid, come out very much like sour grapes, as if Batteux felt that he himself should again be manager of France, and was jealous of those results which Kovacs has managed to obtain.

Circumstances

One is well aware that Kovacs is something of a figure of controversy. He had two marvellous seasons at Ajax, but the word was that he would not have been retained by them even had he not resigned, on the grounds that the Rumanian Federation wanted him back to take over the national team; which they did not eventually insist upon. Did Kovacs do it at Ajax, or was it the players? Was Total Football really his creation? All one can say is that as soon as he left, the Ajax team just fell apart. He was lucky to go when he did, say his enemies. You cannot, in such circumstances, hope to win.

Perhaps Kovacs could and should have handled Batteux a little more diplomatically. Perhaps he **is**, above all, a superb public relations man. The fact remains he does seem to have got that French team to play for him, and however he has managed that, it is surely an acheivement in itself. Batteux, I think, must be ruled out of order. At the very least he made an inept choice of his moment to speak out.

It is true that Jean Marc Guillou, the Angers man, is not a perpetual motion player. In Wroclaw, his tremendous influence in midfield was above all the fruit of shrewd positioning and simple, accurate use of the short ball; an example which had the most benign effect on the other two midfield players, Huck and Michel.

That day, on his international debut, Christian Coste celebrated by scoring the first goal. You may groan when I tell you about yet another promising young centre-forward in our international team, but you cannot deny that this one has at least begun with a bang. Revelli, Molitor, Lacombe; and now Coste.

Coste's rise has been astonishingly swift. Within eleven months, he has gone from being an amateur with Sete to being the centre-forward of the French professional team. In September last year, he was capped for the amateur international side, and was the scorer of a goal against Scotlands' amateur team, at Ayr. Then Georges Peyroche, his mentor when he began with the Lunel club, was appointed manager of Lille, and persuaded Christian to come North as a professional. Together, they helped Lille to soar out of the Second Division into the First.

The best was still to come. Late last August, Michel Hidalgo, Kovac's assistant manager, went to see Lille play the Champions, Saint Etienne, and thought young Coste was the best player on the field. His call to the colours followed. Thanks to Hidalgo's strong recommendation, he played half a game at the Parc des Princes in Paris against Benfica, was none too well suported, but was still capped in Poland; and scored.

Good wishes

A modest, pleasant young man, he received in Paris a letter of good wishes signed by the whole Lille team; including the Yugoslav World Cup player Karasi, with whom he is combining impressively.

Another Yugoslav player who is doing impressively well, though in the Second Division (like Osim, at Sedan!) is Jankovic. Formerly with Boulogne, this gifted midfield player has been bought by Lorient, where he is estimated the most gifted forward they have had since Roland Guillas, who went on to play for France. They are delighted and astonished by Jankovic's superb technique, the elegant way he brings the ball under control with foot or chest, his skilful distribution. It seems a little strange that so good a footballer should be in the Second Division, but there we are.

Meanwhile Nigel Page-Jones, who has been such a pillar of the Brest team at left-back for years, has now moved back into midfield, where he began. This sturdy Englishman, the only one in the French League, is doing very well in the "engine room". What a pity that Brest have no real ambitions to move out of the Second Division, and that Mme. Page-Jones is so happy in her native Brest!

Overjoyed

Reims, meanwhile, have signed one more in a long series of Argentinians. He is the stocky, moustached 22-year-old left winger José Santamaria, he comes from the Newell's Old Boy's club of Rosario, and he was recently voted Argentina's Player of the Year, having helped his team to win the Championship.

Why didn't he play in the World Cup? His fellow Argentinian forward at Reims, Carlos Bianchi, says it is because, not suffering fools gladly, he quarrelled with the coach, Cap, having previously quarrelled with Pizzuti. He arrived with the reputation, besides, of being a goalscorer, with an ice cold temperament. "He'll make me score fifteen more goals this season!" said Bianchi, who is certainly overjoyed at the arrival of Santamaria. We shall doubtless see.

Doherty returns

by Eric Thornton

THE good news today for soccer folk in all parts of Britain and Overseas is that Peter Doherty is back again on the big scene, and has once more become fully involved with the game he loves so much.

Admittedly, this wonderful Irishman has reached sixty. And that automatically slips him into grandfather rating for many of the fans. But I can warn them they'll all have to really go some to accumulate the knowledge of this former world figure.

For Peter the Great, as he was known both sides of the war, was an international as far back as 1934, still wearing the green shirt of the six counties almost twenty years later, and his fortieth birthday was coming up before it was decided that enough was enough.

The wonderful touches, encouraging words, and bubbling enthusiasm for a sport which won a disciple during school days at Coleraine, in the county of Londonderry, were fully in evidence up to the last minute before breaking a leg in the cause of Doncaster Rovers.

Now, having stepped out of part retirement in a home on the Fylde coast, this man who starred successively at top league level for Blackpool, Manchester City, Derby County and Huddersfield Town has been recruited for a special job with Sunderland.

Bob Stokoe, tough Newcastle centre-half in their cup-winning year of 1955, then variously boss of several outfits until taking the Roker boys to a fantastic Wembley triumph, recognised the possibilities of a link-up with such experience.

So we have here a partnership which should be capable of at least lifting the Wearsiders back into that top circle they had never left until goal average decided they should accompany Sheffield Wednesday into the Second Division, in 1958. Both climbed back, but, sorry to say, both took the wrong escalator again four years ago.

Shock

Today, that notorious shock of red hair has almost vanished underneath strands of grey, but the lively soccer brain which often schemed the ultimate end of many internationals remains in full operation for one of football's newest assistant-managers.

He worries about wrong ideas on formations—"These 4-4-2 and 4-3-4 schemes are killing the game, and they also make matches like cowboy films, in a way, because when you've seen one you've seen the lot."

He worries about the up-and-coming professionals—"I would like to rid them of some of the bad things they unfortunately learn in their early days, and then just develop the best things as they mature."

He worries about coaching—"Everybody seems to be getting mixed-up with all this talk about centre-backs, strikers and sweepers, though, after all, the game is basically the same, and you've got to win the ball and finish up with it in your opponents' net."

A man of definite views. The same Peter I first met in his Maine Road days. The same warmhearted person who I think lost faith in Manchester City when, after hitch-hiking from a Service base in the midlands, during the war, he had to return without any cash reward on being told there was no team spot available for him.

His pre-war move to City staggered the sporting world. For the fee of over £10,000 was one of the highest ever paid up to that particular time. And he cost Derby the same just a few years afterwards.

Honour

Within a very short while, however, he had helped knit together a line-up that gave the Rams the honour of being the first post-war Cup winners. Which, really, was hardly surprising when one recalls that the team also included such as Raich Carter, Dally Duncan, Jack Stamps, and Leon Leuty.

Once manager of the Irish team, Doherty deplores the dwindling crowds, but reckons all the missing fans will come back once the game becomes simple again and more exciting to watch.

Now one of football's finest advertisements, Peter the Great backs the soccer life, and is ever ready to encourage youngsters to have a go, stay in the game and forget the advancing years. . . .

CFB THROUGH

SPAIN came through their initial European Championship test against Denmark in Copenhagen by winning 2-1. Both goal-scorers were subsequently involved in incidents.

The captain Jose Claramunt who had scored from the penalty spot was sent off after the interval when he encroached three times at a free kick. Roberto Martinez the other scorer was carried off—injured.

The Spaniards also went out to Buenos Aires to play Argentina in the Hispanic Cup which marks the Day of the (Spanish) Race—Columbus Day for Spanish people.

Argentina, who had won five times to Spain's twice, with another two games drawn, had only a few of their World Cup stars available including Brindisi, Houseman and Babington and gave an unimpressive performance.

For Spain their best attacker was midfield player Pirri, now moving towards the veteran stage himself, but he gave his team an 81st minute lead which was soon equalised.

In Europe, Barcelona won their second leg against VOEST Linz in the European Cup by five clear goals after drawing goalless in Austria. In the Cup Winners Cup Real Madrid had little difficulty with Fram Reykjavik winning 2-0 away and 6-0 at home.

Real Zaragoza came through safely against Vitoria Setubal in the UEFA Cup, as did Atletico Madrid over KB Copenhagen after a fright in the away leg which they lost 3-2 but Real Sociedad lost both legs to Czechoslovakia's Banik Ostrava.

Johan Cruyff, in action for Barcelona against VOEST Linz of Austria. Barcelona won 5-0 in this European Cup match.

WORLD SOCCER looks at football in the Channel Islands with Paul Radford

Domestic game is thriving

THE Channel Islands may be little more than a few dots on the average size map of Europe, but for a group of islands with a total population only marginally greater than that of a small English country town like Oxford, the islands have produced a surprising number of good players.

Do you remember Dick Le Flem, the former Nottingham Forest and England Under-23's winger, Bill Whare, who won an F.A. Cup winners medal with Nottingham Forest in 1959, the Farmer brothers, Bill, also of Forest, and Ron of Coventry City, Len Duquemin, centre-forward for Tottenham Hotspur in the early fifties, Bill Spurdle of Manchester City or Barry Mahy of Scunthorpe United? They were all from Guernsey, the second largest of the Channel Islands.

And what about Geoff Vowden, who appeared for Forest, Birmingham City and Aston Villa, Ely Hurel, who played for Everton in the 1930s alongside the legendary Dixie Dean, Ray de Gruchy of Grimsby Town, and Chris Jones, the nineteen-year-old who replaced Martin Chivers in the Tottenham side earlier this season? Yes, they all hail from the largest island, Jersey.

Standard

Nottingham Forest figure prominently on this list thanks to the services of the late Ted Malpas, a former Aston Villa player who coached in Guernsey and acted as Forest scout for a number of years.

But the Channel Islands are not just exporters of soccer talent. The standard of domestic competitions — at its top level — compares favourably with senior amateur football in Britain. In fact many of the top amateur clubs who visit the islands return home beaten, and even the British professional teams don't always have things their own way when they appear in Jersey and Guernsey.

The main domestic competition is the Muratti vase—contested annually by the only three islands in which soccer is played on an organised basis, Jersey, Guernsey and Alderney.

Guernsey's 2-1 win in Jersey in this year's Muratti final brought the series to a classic situation. Both islands have now won the Muratti 28 times since the competition started in 1905, and on one occasion the trophy was shared.

Alderney, which has a population of some 1,500 compared to Guernsey's 50,000 and Jersey's 70,000, has only won the trophy once. In fact this tiny island has won just one single match in the whole history of the tournament, and that was way back in 1920! In those days each of the three islands received a bye to the final every third year while the other two played off a semi-final. In that year Guernsey duly beat Jersey in the semi-final and then, to everyone's amazement, including Alderney's, lost 1-0 to Alderney in the final.

However, since the second world war Alderney have been obliged to play in every semi-final with Guernsey and Jersey taking it in turns to get a bye into the final. As Alderney traditionally lose their semi-final by anything up to ten goals, this invariably means that Jersey and Guernsey take the field in the final, which is staged alternately in each island as a single match.

The intensity of feeling promoted by the annual Jersey-Guernsey clash resembles that of the England-Scotland encounters—but naturally on a smaller scale—thanks to the traditional rivalry (some might call it hostility) between the two islands.

The second most important of the inter-insular competitions is the Upton Park Cup—played for by the champion clubs of Jersey and Guernsey alternately in each island. Guernsey clubs have the best record to date with 29 wins to Jersey's 25, and one shared.

Victories

The club with the most victories in this competition is Guernsey's Northerners, who have won 14 times and also shared the cup once with their closest rivals, Jersey Wanderers, who have won the trophy outright eight times.

The Jersey Football League run Jersey's premier league—known as the Marquis Memorial division — which is played in midweek under floodlights at the island's principal ground, the 11,000-capacity Springfield Stadium. The top clubs over the years have been, and still are, Jersey Wanderers, who have appeared in 21 Upton Park finals, and First Tower United, who have played in 11. A second division, called the Guiton division, is competed for by the reserve teams of the Marquis Memorial clubs.

As well as the midweek leagues, separate Saturday and Sunday leagues operate in Jersey with about forty clubs in each in various divisions. All of these leagues are run independently but are affiliated to the Jersey F.A. Many of the island's top players play three times a week by appearing for different clubs in each of the three leagues. Quite a stiff programme for purely amateur players, especially when one considers that some British professionals complain about playing twice a week.

In Guernsey the situation is slightly different with the local F.A. organising their own leagues. The premier division is the Priaulx league which used to have seven clubs playing each other three times each, but as from this season an eighth club, Rovers, will be taking part. The Priaulx league is the oldest competition in the Channel Islands, dating back to 1893.

The second and third teams of each of the Priaulx clubs, play in divisions known as the Jackson and Railway Leagues.

Guernsey's leading clubs were, until recently, Northerners and Guernsey Rangers. Northerners still hold the record number of Priaulx league wins with 24, followed by Rangers with 15. Now these clubs have faded and the island's top two are St. Martins and Vale Recreation.

St. Martins won their first Priaulx league in the 1963-4 season—and then went on to record an incredible nine wins in a row. During the same period they also annexed no less than seven Upton Park trophies. In the last two seasons, however, the "Saints" have been deposed by Vale Recreation.

● Continued on page 45

News from America and Canada by Colin Jose

YOUTH VICTORY

AS was expected, Mexico won this year's CONCACAF Youth Tournament which was held in Canada. In their five games the Mexicans scored 21 goals while goalkeeper Javier Regulado was unbeaten.

Yet it was not quite as easy for the Mexicans as it looks. The tremendous goals for statistic was really the result of just one game a 16-0 thrashing of the young and very inexperienced Puerto Rican team in the opening game.

Following this Mexico played a goalless draw with Trinidad and Tobago and then edged Costa Rico 1-0 to win their group. This qualified them for the play offs where they beat Bermuda 3-0 and played some superb soccer in the process.

A bye got Mexico into the final where they were fortunate to beat Cuba 1-0 on a goal by Victor Rangel in the 31st minute.

But if Mexico were fortunate to win the championship in the end, then the most unfortunate teams were Canada and the United States.

The Canadians completely dominated their group beating Bermuda 4-1, the Dominican Republic 5-0 and Nicaragua 2-1 with virtually their second team. Yet in the play offs they were beaten by Cuba on penalty kicks despite having 90 per cent of the play and hitting the inside of the woodwork three times. Canada was winning 2-1 in this game with two minutes to go in extra time, then Regino Delgado scored a brilliant goal for Cuba to force the tie-breaker.

Opened

Much the same thing happened to the United States who opened the tournament by beating Guatemala 2-1 to win their first-ever youth international. The U.S. team then went on to play a goalless draw with Cuba and beat Jamaica 2-1.

This qualified the American boys for the play offs, where like Canada in their game against Cuba, they had much the better of the play only to lose on penalty kicks.

Their opponents were Trinidad and there was no score at full time. The U.S. took the lead early in extra time but could not hold on to their advantage and Trinidad equalised to force the penalty kicks, which eventually qualified them to meet Cuba in a semi-final for the right to play Mexico.

Opportunity

There is little doubt in my mind that Mexico, Canada and the United States, perhaps in that order, were the best three teams in this tournament and it seems a pity that they never had the opportunity to play one another.

Certainly if these are the kind of players being produced in North American youth soccer these days then the game certainly has a very strong future here.

Los Ang
win dec

THE North American Soccer League championship has been won for the second year in a row by an expansion team. At the Orange Bowl in Miami, the Los Angeles Aztecs beat the home town Miami Toros 4-3 with the deciding goal being the result of a penalty-kicking contest after the teams were tied 3-3 at the end of regulation time.

Playing on artificial turf before 15,507 fans who braved the 100 degree heat, Miami took the lead in the 16th minute with Ralph Wright heading in a corner kick from Ronnie Sharp. Nine minutes later Rafael Arguelles pulled down Renato Costa in the penalty area and Ricardo DeRienzo made no mistake with the spot kick to put the Aztecs level.

The second half had a little bit of everything. Aztec goalkeeper Blas Sancheb saved a penalty kick from Ronnie Sharp, then turned a 30-yard drive from Arguelles over the bar. Wright of Miami headed against the bar then Derek Watts of Miami hit the bar with the goal at his mercy. A goal had to come and it came in the strangest way when a clearance from Moraldo hit a team-mate and rebounded into the Aztec goal to give the Toros a 3-2 lead.

But five minutes later Los Angeles were level again as Uri Banhoffer hammered a free-kick over the Miami wall. Soon after this referee John Davies developed cramp and then collapsed from exhaustion as a result of the heat. Senior linesman Paul Avis took over for the rest of regulation time.

With less than four minutes left to play Esteban Aranguiz headed what appeared to be the winning goal for Miami with the ball actually passing through the net. But the Aztecs refused to be beaten and with two minutes left to play Doug McMillan made it 3-3 to force the teams into the penalty-kicking situation. No extra time is played in the NASL.

Regulation

Referee John Davies returned to take charge of this and with the Aztecs shooting first and leading 2-1 on kicks Sanchez saved his second penalty of the day from Sharp. But this time the referee judged that the Los Angeles goalkeeper had moved (it looked suspiciously like the same thing had happened in regulation time) and Sharp made no mistake with his second shot.

Then with Miami behind 4-3, Roger Verdi shot over the bar and it only remained for Tony Douglas to score with the fifth Los Angeles penalty. Toriani saved it, but his joy was short-lived as this time it was the Miami goalkeeper who had moved and Douglas hammered his second shot into the net with little difficulty.

For Los Angeles coach Alex Perolli it marked his first success in three tries in the NASL. First of all he was fired by the Rochester Lancers in mid-season in 1970 and that club eventually went on to win the title in that season. Then last year as coach of the Vera Cruz club of Mexico he led that club on a disastrous tour of NASL cities.

The final proved a fitting climax to a highly interesting and successful

News from America and Canada by Colin Jose

USA LOSE TWO

THE United States played its first two internationals under new national team coach Dettmar Cramer at the beginning of September — losing both games to Mexico in the newly-instituted Rio Grande Plate competition between the two nations.

The US team, consisting entirely of American players from North American Soccer League clubs, dropped the first game 3-1 in Monterrey despite opening the scoring through Denny Vaninger of the St Louis Stars. De La Torre and Lopez (2) scored for Mexico.

In the return game played three days later at the Texas Stadium in Dallas a record crowd for a US international game of 22,164 was on hand to see the Americans lose 1-0 on a goal by Rene Trujillo in the 36th minute. Headers from Vaninger, Kyle Rote, Al Trost and Bobby Smith were all cleared off the line by Mexican defenders.

The world six-a-side championship came to London recently, and brought Jimmy Greaves and Gordon Banks out of retirement. Eusebio (left) played for Toronto who beat London 13-12.

geles Aztecs eiding game

season for the North American Soccer League and once again the most encouraging thing was the considerable jump in attendances, making an increased awareness of and interest in the game across North America.

This increase in interest was most marked in two expansion cities — San Jose and Seattle — where attendances put such so-called established soccer cities as New York and Toronto to shame. Recently I talked to Jack Daley, the general manager of the Seattle Sounders, about the success his club enjoyed and asked him what he considered the reasons to be.

"First of all ownership," he said. "We have a combination of civic and business leaders behind our club led by Walter Daggatt and this gave our club respectability within the community something some clubs have lacked.

"Secondly we chose a coach in John Best who is very familiar with the operation of the NASL and has been one of its star players for a number of years. He was a coach the players could look up to and respect and he did well in the field of public relations.

"Another reason has to be that we had a largely British team and most of the players spoke English. This helped enormously in conducting clinics and in speaking engagements with business and social clubs and in just meeting the fans.

"Also we enjoyed excellent relations with the soccer organisations in the state of Washington and we threw our resources behind them and in particular the minor soccer programme. Some of our players who stayed behind in Seattle after the season was over are still conducting clinics."

The rapport that the Seattle Sounders enjoyed with the sports fans of the city, and went out of their way to cultivate, earned them seven consecutive sell-out crowds in excess of 14,000 in their small Memorial Stadium. For their final home game against Los Angeles the stadium was sold out NINE days before the game, while on numerous other occasions there were queues outside the stadium for tickets over one hour before kick-off time.

Daly also credits good newspaper coverage for the success of his club plus a keen interest on the part of the radio and television stations in the Seattle area, something that other clubs have not always enjoyed. Before their final game the Sounders threw 1,000 roses to the crowd, sang Auld Lang Syne and did a victory lap.

"Soccer is played all year round in Seattle now," Daly points out, "with over 26,000 boys involved in the minor soccer programme."

European news review — USSR... BULGARIA... CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Dynamo Kiev get their revenge

AFTER finishing second in Cup and league to Ararat Jerevan last season, Dynamo Kiev, under Valerie Lobanowski, are exacting full revenge. They reached the half way mark clear leaders by three points and in the Cup Final beat Zarja Vorochilovgrad 3-0. That wasn't as easy as it looks, however, for at 90 minutes the scoresheet was blank. Only in extra time did Dynamo gain control, Vladimir Muntjan opening the scoring in the 92nd minute and Blochin and Onitschenko adding further goals.

Dynamo Kiev went down to their second defeat of the league campaign shortly after, losing 2-0 in Moscow against Spartak watched by a crowd of 55,000. Boulgarov (who also hit the Kiev bar) and Piskarev were the Spartak scorer.

At that stage Zenith Leningrad were threatening, only two points away. Under manager German Zonin (returned after leading Zarja to the 1972 championship) Zenith's strong defence had earned them 6 wins 12 draws and only one defeat. Indeed Zenith had gone 12 games without defeat when they visited Kiev as co-leaders but they were soundly thrashed 5-0 with Oleg Blochin getting four.

Hat-trick

Since then, Kiev haven't looked back with Blochin getting a hat-trick in a 5-0 league drubbing of Zarja and they now have a clear five point lead—and a game in hand over Torpedo Moscow, who have become their closest rivals, heading a list of five clubs separated by only one point.

Ararat have not done at all well this season. They are in mid-table and averaging a point per game. Another unusual feature has been maintained, however, for this season, following Dnepr before them, the newly promoted Cernomrec (Odessa) are in third place while the other new club Nistru Kischinjow are bottom and almost booked.

Amongst the scorers Blochin (Dynamo Kiev) is again well placed with 13 but an unknown 24-year-old, Anatoli Ionkin of Kairat Alma Ata, has 14. In third place is Moscow Dynamo's discovery of last season Anatoli Bajdachnij with 11.

CSKA SNATCH CUP VICTORY

AT THE start of the new season in Bulgaria, the first big event was the Cup Final postponed from June because of the World Cup. It brought together CSKA, the Army team, and their Sofia neighbours Levski/Spartak, the two most successful clubs of the post war period. CSKA led 1-0 at half time; Levski had made it 1-1 at 90 minutes and after 11 minutes of extra time Georgi Denev snatched the goal that CSKA the cup. These two teams have now met in the final six times and CSKA's success brings them at 3-3.

Then at the opening of the league campaign it became clear that neither club is currently really able to dominate, with CSKA in particular showing signs of stress. Petar Jekov is clearly over the hill and it was left to the forceful international wing half Bojil Kolev to score when CSKA lost 2-1 in the Sofia derby with Slavia.

Kolev also scored two more next time out when CSKA beat a mediocre Gabrovo 5-3. CSKA then went down to newly promoted Dounav (Russe) 1-0, recovered to beat Sliven 3-1 and then lost to Cernomorec at Varna to a goal by Stefan Bogomilov the local hero.

Since then CSKA made up some ground by beating top of the league Levski (who have a game in hand). Losing 1-2 to CSKA, Levski have been pushed off the top.

Lokomotive Plovdiv, with Chritso Bonev naturally the main force, made the early running, accompanied by Slavia Sofia. Lokomotive began their campaign at Varna where Bogomilov scored twice and Bonev got one in Lokomotive's 3-2 win. Lokomotive then entertained Levski with Bonev scoring early and after Levski had forced a later equaliser, earning a free kick from which Lokomotive won 2-1.

Bonev's big day, however, came at the fourth hurdle in the Plovdiv derby against Trakia. Bonev scored a hat-trick and Lokomotive won 7-3. However, Lokomotive later crashed 3-1 at home to Slavia (goals from Tzvetkov (2) and Mintchev) and Bonev with six goals to his credit against nine by Trakia's Pritargov trial one point behind Slavia at the top.

New manager for Jablonec

BEFORE the season started in Czechoslovakia, an interesting situation had developed following the promotion of Liaz Jablonec to the top flight. Ladislav Novak, the former Dukla left back with the Czech record number of caps, led them to promotion and then took off for Belgium where he is now boss of Lokeren. Meanwhile Sparta Prague dismissed Tadeus Kraus, their former star—replaced by their former international centre forward Istav Mraz, and Jablonec appointed Kraus to succeed Novak. By chance the opening day fixtures brought these two teams together in Jablonec and fans came into the small town from miles around.

This was the first ever First Division game for Jablonec and cynics in Prague believed they would soon be having their last! Come the day and Jablonec gave Sparta a 3-1 beating. After winning three of the first four games they topped the table briefly. Now after eight games they are a commendable 5th while Sparta, the famed, illustrious Sparta . . . are bottom.

In fact it took Sparta eight attempts to gain their first win and when it came it was unusual against the league leaders and champions Slovan Bratislava.

As it was Jan Capkovic gave Slovan an early lead but a penalty taken by Josef Jurkanin put Sparta on the road to a 4-2 win watched by a mere 11,000, which for the 'old firm' is not good. Mraz, who last season was a journalist and also coach of Sparta reserves, is going to have a hard time keeping his job.

Slovan are still probably the best balanced side and have played two more home games than anyone else. Beaten three times, they have all been away—strangely enough all in Prague: 1-2 to Dukla; 0-2 to Slavia (a dirty game) and now Sparta.

Good news for the national team is the apparent return to form of Ladislav Petras of Inter Bratislava. He hit five goals (including 3 penalties) in the 7-4 win over Sparta and though missing several games through injury is top scorer with nine goals . . . and Inter are league leaders.

European news review — POLAND.. AUSTRIA.. EAST GERMANY..

Three leaders in Poland

POGON Stettin (Szczecin), Wisla Krakow and Stal Mielec (1972 champions) all held the lead briefly in the opening weeks of the new campaign in Poland—Stal topping the list with a game in hand after five matches. But when that game was played—away to Ruch Chorzow—Ruch won 2-1 after Lato had given Stal the lead early on, with two goals from Chojnacki just before half time.

It looks set for a fair battle, however, with Ruch, Wisla and Stal all within one point at the top. Lech Poznan and Gwardia head the middle-men but both Gornik and Legia are well back.

Ruch started well with a 4-0 home win over Polonia Bytom (Kopicera (2) and Benigier and Bula one each), then won 2-1 away at Lodz against LKS—Marx and Kopicrea the scorers. Then they missed a game before the European Cup and resumed away to Wisla at Krakow where they were more soundly beaten than the 2-1 score suggests. Kmiacik, the leading scorer from the start got both the Wils goals.

Ruch then put Lech Poznan (currently 4th) firmly in their place with a 5-0 drubbing Binigier (3) and Marx (2) and got a point against Gornik at Zabrze in the local derby—Szarmach for Gornik, Bula for Ruch.

Then came the midweek win over Stal and a 2-0 beating of Legia saw them back on top.

Wisla remain the only unbeaten team but they have yet to visit both Stal and Chorzow as well as Gornik and Legia who will doubtless recover. Gornik have drawn five of their seven games and with only Ruch scoring more goals it seems their defence is at fault. Top scorers for Gornik are Andrzjez Szarmach and Jerzy Gorgon the stopper with three each.

Heading the scorers list is Kazimierz Kmiecik of Wisla with seven goals, ahead of his challengers. Then come a bunch of players on four: Jan Benigier (Ruch), Grzegorz Lato (Stal Mielec), Joachim Marx (Ruch) and Jan Malkiewicz (Gwardia Warsaw). Deyna, Domarski and last season's top marksman Zdisla Kapka (Wisla) are nowhere in sight.

TWO HORSE RACE

AFTER only six games the 1974-75 East German championship is clearly going to be a two horse race with reigning champions 1st FC Magdeburg slight favourites over FC Carl Zeiss Jena because of their heavier scoring power.

The rest of the field has fallen four clear points behind, including Dynamo Dresden who are well down the table, apparently out of form. Lokomotive Leipzig are even lower, missing perhaps the goalscoring touch of Hans Bert Matoul, who has retired.

Despite Dynamo's lapses—beaten 0-3 away by Wismut Aue and 2-3 away to newly promoted Vorwarts Stralsund, after Hans-Jurgen Kreische and Frank Richter had given them a 2-0 lead after only 20 minutes—the Dresden fans remain loyal, presumably enjoying their football. In Dynamo's three home games to date they have pulled in a total of 86,000, well above the average for the DDR. Even Magdeburg, the champions, have only totalled 67,000 for their three games.

Hallescher FC Chemie have also done well, with their former star Bernd Bransch transferred back after a one year loan to FC Carl Zeiss Jena. With the club also gaining promotion back to the top flight, they drew 24,000 for the visit of Dynamo Dresden on the opening day. Since then they have celebrated a 7-1 win over Stahl Riesa . . . with Bransch getting the first.

Magdeburg are the team to watch, however. On the first day they hammered FC Karl Marx Stadt 5-3 — Martin Hoffmann, Jurgen Pommerenke, Jurgen Sparwasser and their new young cap Axel Tyll all getting amongst the goals. The next game, away to Sachsenring Zwickau saw them put five more past the national team's first choice goalkeeper Jurgen Croy with Pommerenke and Hoffmann each getting two.

They dropped their only point at home to BFC Dynamo Berlin, drawing 1-1 after Reinhard Lauck had given BFC the lead, Tyll equalised late in the game. BFC also took the only point Carl Zeiss have dropped, 1-1 at home but BFC are also the only team without a win.

New league is reality

THE new Bundesliga in Austria, cutting the old top class from 17 clubs to 10, is now reality—they will all meet four times to give 36 gate receipts all round. Little has changed, however, according to the critics, most gates still vary between 4,000 and 8,000 and only the admission prices (up) show any great difference.

For the fifth round (Five games) the total attendance was 35,000—an average of 7,000 and only the local derbies between SC Rapid and FK Austria/WAC have pulled big crowds. The first clash with FK Austria, the beneficiaries, attracted 40,000—the biggest crowd at the Prater Stadion for a league match in seven years.

This was the 125th derby between the two sides and league leaders Rapid won 3-1 with centre forward Hans Krankl scoring all three. At 21, Krankl already has offers to play abroad—the greatest bugbear perhaps of the game in Austria but under new regulations he cannot go until he is 26.

Set-up

The return game pulled in only 28,000 to aid Rapid's coffers—teams are playing each other home and away in succession in the new set-up but again Rapid won 2-0 with Gustl Starek and Herbert Gronen the key men for Rapid.

FK Austria came closest to scoring when Helmuth Koegelberger hit a post but the result was virtually settled when Austria's Hans Pirkner was sent off. These results were a double blow for FK Austria's new manager Robert Dienst. Under him they had begun well—and Dienst used to play for Rapid, knocking up the 37 goal total that is still a record . . . back in 1950-51.

Slipped

Swarowski Wacker Innsbruck, the top team in recent years, have slipped back quite a way and in the last round they went down at home 1-2 to VOEST Linz with Josef (Sepp) Stering getting both for the visitors. This wrecked Wackers' two years unbeaten at home record.

Hans Krankl (Rapid) is the top scorer with eight goals and in the new set-up there are only 26 foreigners compared with 49 last season; 12 West Germans, 6 Yugoslavs, 4 Danes, 2 from Uruguay and one each from Hungary and Rumania.

Discipline... signs of strong moves in the East

DISCIPLINE" is a word which seems to have little to do with football any more.

Perhaps the media is to blame—giving Western footballers ideas of their own importance which are inflated out of all proportion—a *laissez faire* passport.

Generally it's a disease which hasn't afflicted Eastern Europe very much, but the signs are lately that, as we all suspected, not everyone beyond the Iron Curtain is on the straight and narrow.

Russian players, for example, have been reminded in the forcible possible terms of how they are expected to set an example to fans. Anatoly Baidachny, who won't be 22 until December 1, and has more than a dozen caps, has been suspended for life for allegedly turning up drunk for training despite a warning from the club.

Baidachny played for Russia in the final of the 1972 European Championship against West Germany, and looked one of their better players. Certainly a footballer of promise, and last season he was one of Moscow Dynamo's top league scorers with 11 goals.

He may earn a second chance some day, though. His case recalls that of Eduard Strelzov, potentially the greatest Russian forward of all, who was suspended for life after being given a five-year jail term for attacking a young woman in 1960.

Release

On release in 1965, however, he was "reprieved" by the FA who no doubt hoped that he would be back in form by the time the 1966 World Cup came round. Unfortunately it was decided at a higher level that it would not be good for the comrades' morale if Strelzov were allowed the perk of a trip to the West so soon, and thus he wasn't seen outside the Eastern bloc until more than 18 months after his New Start.

Bulgaria follows the Russian example too in expecting high standards of dedication. To play in the first division every player needs a permit renewable after a series of tests and examinations every summer.

Surprise failure this time was Dimitar Penev, the 19-year-old World Cup stopper, who had to run through the fitness routine a second time before he could convince the

by Keir Radnedge

FA and league and his club, CSKA Sofia, that he was in top condition.

Not that this appears to have done his international prospects much harm, since he was back in the national team for the exciting 3-3 draw with Greece in the European Championship.

Then, there's Poland. I reported on the Gadocha situation in *World Soccer* last month, and there's been little development since.

Still, we have been made aware of how worried the Poles are about their left winger's determination to play in the West. When Legia Warsaw came across to France to face Nantes in the first round of the UEFA Cup, they left Gadocha behind.

Whether that was a punishment, or precaution against his seeking asylum, no-one would say, of course. At least there was no pretence that he was injured, or had suddenly been taken ill on the eve of departure. And Gadocha might have permitted himself a wry smile when Legia lost the tie 3-2 on aggregate.

Omitted

The latest word is that the Polish FA shows no sign of relenting, and manager Kazimierz Gorski even omitted Gadocha from the squad to prepare for the return European Championship match against Finland.

Also missing when Gorski announced the names, was that of Wladislaw Zmuda, the big 20-year-old stopper so impressively effective against Edstroem, Muller and Jairzinho in the World Cup. He too fancied the idea of playing in the West, only to find his transfer request granted scant sympathy by club officials at Gwardia Warsaw. They've suspended him indefinitely.

Earnings

One dispute has been resolved, however, I'm glad to say—though it's not in Eastern Europe, but Italy.

Luigi Riva has signed on again for Cagliari, though he's had to accept virtually a 50 per cent cut in signing-on fee and guaranteed earnings.

Still, it's not as if Riva needs the money.

He said: "I've signed on again for the sake of the club, for the sake of my team-mates, but above all for the fans."

No false modesty there, but then Riva is well aware of his worth to the club.

Yet even then his troubles were not over for, back in full training, he pulled a muscle and missed the start of the season. Cagliari were held 0-0 at home by Lanerossi Vicenza in the opening match, and then crashed 4-1 to Inter in San Siro the next week.

Former Cagliari man Roberto Boninsegna got all four goals for the club who would have headed the bidding for Riva if he had been ready to accept a transfer.

News from HUNGARY

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Dozsa have also opened in great style. Their 3-0 victory at Sofia against Levski was a tremendous result, and a 4-1 home win confirmed their superiority over the rather dispirited Bulgarians. For the record, the six Ferencvaros goals (2-0, 4-1) against Cardiff were scored by Nyilasi, Szabo 2, Mate, Pusztai and Takacs. For Dozsa, Bene (3), E. Dunai (2), A. Dunai and Horvath put the ball in the net.

Please note

Appropos Bene! He is playing as well as ever and is surely good enough for the national team. Similarly, Balint, Zambo, Toth, Vidats, Peter and Istvan Juhasz and Lajos Kocsis should be re-called—selectors please note!

The championship is running on its predictable course with Dozsa leading the pack, hotly pursued by Honved and Ferencvaros. One must mention the matches played off on September 26, Dozsa beat Haladas 8-0, with Bene getting four of the goals. On the same day, Ferencvaros thrashed Raba Eto 6-1—young striker Ferenc Szabo scoring five times! Subsequently, Raba got a penalty-kick verdict over Lok. Plovdiv in the UEFA-Cup, after the teams finished 4-4 all square.

Sadly, Videoton were beaten by Naples on a 3-1 aggregate in the same competition.

PERRYMAN of Tottenham Hotspur says

Referees charter could be improved

I THINK I speak for the majority connected with the game, whether they be players, officials or supporters when I say that the referees' clamp-down, which caused so much argument and debate at its inception a couple of seasons ago, has not really had the desired effect.

I have always been of the opinion that ball-players such as Stan Bowles and Rodney Marsh should be allowed to express themselves more freely, and it is true that at the outset the new get-tough policy by referees brought tremendous dividends.

In fact at one stage it proved so effective that many of the game's nice "tacklers" found themselves very much out in the cold. But even then I had one or two reservations, which have now proved to be more than justified.

Defender

For example, I felt and still feel that a defender should not have his name taken for fisting the ball away when his goalkeeper is beaten all ends-up. Surely this is only a natural, reflex action, similar to a drowning man clutching at a straw.

This question of deliberately handling the ball is a complex one, and was well illustrated during a game at Old Trafford a couple of seasons back. Leeds United's Norman Hunter had been "booked" for a handling offence, and only a few minutes later was involved in a clash with Denis Law. As Norman had already had his name taken, the referee could not do it again, or for that matter send him off for what was basically a mild confrontation.

So, the new ruling fell down, and unless legislation is introduced enabling referees to "book" players more than once, it is bound to continue to lead to both bitterness and confusion.

The function of a referee is difficult enough as it is, without having to contend with additional problems. But in my view some referees seem more pre-occupied with the petty incidents and as such, on occasions neglect the dangerous over-the-top tackles.

Therefore, there should be a great deal more consistency in decision-making on the field, although, like footballers, referees are only human, and consequently are open to error.

Another anomaly in the new policy was that very often a player found his name in a referee's black book on one Saturday, and then committed the same offence a week later and escaped. And even though the clean-ing-up ideals of two or three years ago look very much as if they have been swept under the carpet this season, these irregularities still occur far too frequently for comfort.

Obviously the solution to this problem is not an easy one. But it does seem to me that like so many organisations football is suffering from a severe break-down in the liaison between the various bodies in the game. I believe most sincerely that if representatives of the Professional Footballers' Association, the Football Association and the Football League could get together more often and discuss the many problems that exist in the modern game in a rational manner, then the sport would eventually benefit in every aspect. Because if we don't attempt to get more harmony between players and officials the future is bound to be bleak.

Referees

I should like to finish by saying that I believe wholeheartedly that referees should stick firmly to their principles. However, at the same time I remain convinced that the only way for players and referees to understand each other is essentially a twofold question.

Firstly, players should never at any stage during a match question a referee's ruling. And secondly, both referees and linesmen should only "book" players who are in the habit of playing the man instead of the ball — intentional "hands" should not be treated as an offence.

In Wales they have a rugby expression, "Never mind the ball, get on with the game!" If this ideology was used in both football codes, then soccer would soon find itself dying on its feet. Yes, by all means take the name of a player, but not for attempting to prevent a goal by using his hands.

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Attendances at first division games has fallen drastically in recent years and the average in both islands is now little more than a hundred. In the immediate post-war years top games used to attract two or three thousand spectators. Now only Murratti and Upton Park fixtures bring in these sort of crowds.

The Channel Islands' record gate dates back to 1951 when 13,500 people crammed into Guernsey's main stadium, the Cycling Grounds (or the "Track" to give it its popular title) to see Guernsey beat Jersey 3-1 in the Muratti final.

Alderney's minute size prohibits the existence of extensive leagues, but the island can produce just enough players to run three teams. They are Athletics, Ridunian Colts and—the most unlikely name of all—the Northern Belles. But readers will be disappointed to hear that this team is not as pretty as it sounds—all its members are male!

Jersey Marquis Memorial League —final positions 1973-74

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
First Tower	14	11	2	1	33	9	24
Wanderers	14	9	1	4	31	17	19
Oakland	14	7	4	3	20	17	18
Old St. Pauls	14	6	4	4	24	19	16
Georgetown	14	5	4	5	24	18	14
Magpies	14	5	1	8	20	34	11
Beeches Old Boys	14	2	2	10	18	26	6
Old Victorians	14	1	2	11	14	44	4

Guernsey Priaulx League —final positions 1973-74

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vale Recreation	18	15	2	1	88	29	32
St. Martins	18	14	2	2	48	19	30
Belgrave W.	18	11	2	5	67	29	24
Northerners	18	7	0	11	30	58	14
Sylvans	18	5	3	10	26	51	13
Rangers	18	5	1	12	31	54	11
Centrals	18	1	0	17	12	62	2

Petras piles on the agony

● Continued from page 27

instated Ladislav Petras was operating that the first goal came.

Rounding Kische as if he weren't there, Petras crossed a ball, pulled back slightly into the path of Bicovsky coming from midfield, and all Bicovsky had to do was be quick. Twelve minutes later Petras pulled a muscle and was replaced by Pavel Stratil but the Czechs continued, full of confidence.

Jozef Capkovic had already stormed upfield from stopper to win two corners and even Hoffman's goal didn't peg them back. Within five minutes the Czechs were ahead again with a move involving Svehlik, Masny and Bicovsky that ended with the last named driving the ball home.

On the half hour, right back Pivarnik broke clear, away down the right and his cross was met by the other stopper, Ondrus who made it 3-1 with a half-volley. Before the break Svehlik had an excellent chance but hesitated at the fatal moment.

The second half was played at a slightly lower pace but the East Germans were never really given the chance to get back into the game. Gajdusek went close with a left foot shot and later the same player saw his shot beat DDR goalkeeper Jurgen Croy, only for Kische covering, to scramble it away.

Czechoslovakia (3) 3 (Bicovski 2, Ondrus)
East Germany (1) 1 (Hoffman) 10,000

Czechoslovakia: Viktor; Pivarnik (Rygl), Capkovic (Vojacek), Ondrus, Varadin, Bicovsky, Pekarik, Gajdusek, Svehlik, Masny, Petras (Stratil).

East Germany: Croy; Kische, Weise, Brausch, Decker, Dorner, Sparwasser (Irmscher), Kurbjuweit, Hoffman, Schellenberg (Streich), Vogel (Pommerenke).

Yugoslavia 1: Italy 0

FULVIO Bernadini produced a much changed side for the visit to Zagreb, omitting the 'old guard' of Gianni Rivera, Sandro Mazzola and Luigi Riva and insisting that his major target was the 1978 World Cup. Before that, however, Italy have to meet Holland and as Bernardini said: "There is no point playing with ten men in front of the goalkeeper."

Against Yugoslavia, Bernardini did in fact try to produce something approaching the style of the currently successful teams but failed because his players were not up to the task. Against a Yugoslav side, much changed and far younger man-for-man, the Italians came off worst—not only because they lost but the manner in which they went down.

The Yugoslavs tried to play football and often succeeded, certainly controlling the game for long periods and at times forcing the Italians to defend desperately. How much the Yugoslavs were on top is indicated by the corner-total: 12 to 4 in favour of Yugoslavia.

Italy's most experienced forwards, Roberto Boninsegna and Perino Prati were seldom seen thanks to fine performances by the experienced Katalinski and the young debutant at right back for Yugoslavia, Wilson Dzoni.

The Yugoslavs played their customary game, dwelling on the ball, stroking it around but usually slowly enough to allow the Italian rearguard time to organise. The only slip came shortly before the interval when left winger Ivica Surjak slipped in to score the only goal.

The experiment of playing the young Red Star left winger Vladimir Petrovic at inside right was not a success and despite Danilo Popivoda's goal-scoring prowess in league football he clearly is not international class.

Overall, the Yugoslavs, who also have to re-build, appear to be far closer to the final product — hardly surprising with experienced campaigners like Katalinski, Buljan, Surjak, Jerkovic and Oblak still available to form the backbone of the side.

Yugoslavia (1) 1 (Surjak)
Italy (0) 0 50,000

Yugoslavia: Ognjen Petrovic; Buljan, Dzoni, Katalinski, Hadziabdic, Jerkovic, Oblak, Vladimir Petrovic, Vladic, Popivoda (Zungul), Surjak.

Italy: Zoff; Rocca, Zecchini, Facchetti, Roggi, Capello, Benetti, Re Cecconi, Causio (Damiani), Boninsegna, Prati.

Austria 1: Hungary 0

AFTER beating Wales 2-1, Czech born Austrian team manager Leopold Stastny made seven changes to his side and achieved Austria's first win over the 'old enemy' in 10 years. Altogether it was a poor affair in which only the Austrian veteran Franz Hasil (now with Austria Klagenfurt) showed up well. Gustl Starek provided a few touches, too, but debutant goalkeeper Maurer (29, from Rapid) had very little to do.

Generally, critics of both sides agreed this was the poorest Hungarian team ever seen in Vienna. Jozsef Bozsik, who himself earned 100 caps back in Hungary's glory days of the 50's, was in charge for the first time. He was taken ill with heart trouble a few days later and he might well resign—after only one game.

What the Hungarians needed above all was someone to enliven their attack. In the previous round of league games, Ferenc Bene—the veteran leader of Ujpest Dozsa—had scored four goals in a game against Szombathely. The new 19-year-old centre forward from Ferencvaros, Ferenc Szabo, had got five against Raba Gyor. Unfortunately neither man was in Bozsik's 25 man squad.

The Austrians were little better even though they won with a goal by Hans Krankl. A move down the left found Koegelberger and his cross left Hungarian goalkeeper Meszaros stranded, as, Krankl, running in from the right, leaped to score with a glancing header down to his left hand.

This was in the 16th minute but though the Austrians shouted for more, they were denied—as much by their own ineptitude as anything. All the 40,000 spectators had to console themselves with at the end was the fact that apart from Hattenberger (playing in the West German Second Division) this was a completely home-based side and that Austria are still—despite many reverses—unbeaten at home in the Prater Stadion for four years.

Austria (1) 1 (Krankl)
Hungary (0) 0 40,000

Austria: Maurer; Kirchar, Pajenk, Hof, Krieg, Hattenberger, Hasil, Starek, Stering, Krankl, Koegelberger.

Hungary: Meszaros; Nagy III, Horvath, Harsanyi, Kantor, Fazekas, Pecsek (Torok), Karsai, Fekete, Kozma, Bessei.

Poland 3: Finland 0

FINLAND are the whipping boys in this European championship group and if Poland recovered enough of their aplomb to beat Finland soundly enough they may find later when goals count that they should have taken more advantage of this particular game.

Van der Elst scores for Belgium against France.

International Post-Mortem

50,000 Poznan fans did their best to lift the side so recently humiliated by East Germany and France. Lato was always dangerous, having lost none of his speed and, though still not fully fit, Kazimierz Deyna launched him with long passes up the right often enough to prove that goals were there for the taking.

Polish boss Kazimierz Gorski, clearly eager to re-settle his struggling side made four changes in the defence, presumably for men off form. If the familiar faces of Jerzy Gorgon and Adam Musial return later the re-built defence were quite good enough to subdue the Finns who have little real skill in attack.

Henryk Kasperczak gave Poland an early lead after good work from Deyna and Gadocha, scoring with a header. Then two minutes later Gadocha doubled the score with a well taken penalty. The Poles were now well on top but were unable to add to their lead until after Joachim Marx replaced Szarmach in the centre.

Gadocha is at last showing signs of being match fit and there were enough good touches to indicate that the demise of Poland is only temporary. Late in the second half Lato scored the final goal—the best of the match—to put Poland back into the group race with Holland.

East Germany 1: Iceland 1

THREE days before this match both sides were in action against different opposition—East Germany beating Canada 2-0 in Frankfurt (Oder) but clearly being forced to struggle. Martin Hoffman scored for the DDR after 17 minutes and then the Canadians fought back strongly. It was only in the last minute that Hans-Jurgen Dorner managed to grab a second goal.

Iceland meanwhile were meeting Denmark in Aalborg and the visitors here only went down after a real struggle. Lund gave Denmark an early lead; Mathias Hallgrimson equalised five minutes later and at the break they were even at 1-1. On the hour Ulrik Le Fevre scored the Danes winning goal but the Icelanders were not disgraced.

Clearly something has gone amiss with DDR boss George Buschner's post World Cup plans. In recent games he has experimented with several young players and for this visit of Iceland he reverted to something like his strongest attack. One can only assume that like Hans-Jurgen Kreische, who has never recovered his best form since a knee operation, aging stars like Peter Ducke are past their best.

Joachim Streich, though still in his early twenties, is also out of touch and Buschner seems caught between out of form stars and talented youngsters who fail to live up to the form they show for their clubs. Hoffmann scored an early goal from a cross by Streich but Iceland, playing vigorously with a 4-4-2 formation, hung on. Bad defensive covering left Hallgrimmsson unmarked only five yards from goal and when the ball surprisingly reached him he easily equalised.

The East Germans had most of the play and missed several good chances but even when Eberhard Vogel replaced Jorgen Pommerenke for the last 20 minutes it made no difference. The DDR became more and more nervous and in the end didn't really look like winning.

Fandel of Luxemburg and Katnor of Hungary.

East Germany (1) 1 (Hoffmann)
Iceland (1) 1 (Hallgrimsson) 15,000

East Germany: Schulze; Weise, Zapf, Branoch, Watzlich (Dorner), Kurbjuweit, Decker, Pommerenke (Vogel), Ducke, Streich, Hoffman.
Iceland: Olafsson; Torasson (Thorsteinsson), Petursson, Sigurvinsson, Geirsson, Evaldsson, Lelfsson, Magnusson, Thoradsson (Hedinsson), Hallgrimsson, Eliasson.

Belgium 2: France 1

THE French revival under Stefan Kovacs took a knock at the Heysel stadium in Brussels where Belgium beat them. Indeed, though the French controlled much of the first half, thanks to the midfield domination of Van Himst and Van Moer by Huck and Michel, the Belgians came back strongly in the second half and but for a good performance by Baratelli in the French goal, the margin could have been greater.

The French put several slick moves together, one involving six men ended in the Belgian offside trap, but it was Belgium who scored first. Paul Van Himst had the ball in the centre circle, faced by a crowded midfield, but he plotted a path for a neat forward pass that sliced through the first line of French defenders and found Wilfried Van Moer. With Maurice Martens coming up from left back (as he repeatedly did) and running free, Van Moer laid a nice pass just ahead of him.

Martens came on, picked up the ball and moved closer before letting fly with a tremendous shot that Baratelli made no move to reach—presumably he had expected a centre, and the ball passed between his legs.

Still France continued to have the better of the game and within four minutes they were level when another five man move down their left ended with a pass from Guillou to Coste. The Lille striker shook off a tackle from Van Binst and beat Piot with a nicely placed cross shot.

The game never reached high standards but as a battle between neighbours in the European championship it never flagged. After the interval Van Moer, Van Himst and particularly Jan Verheyen came more into the picture and carried the battle into the French camp.

With a quarter of an hour left, Martens took a free kick on the left that led to a terrific scramble in the French area. Bracci, Michel and Lacombe should all have cleared, but the last named hung on and beat two men before allowing the ball to run loose and Francois Van Der Elst scored easily.

Just a few moments earlier, the Belgians had their best chance when Jodar was adjudged to have fouled Teugels in the area and earned a spot kick. Teugels took it himself, but Baratelli went the right way and blocked the ball. For Belgium, Piot did all that was asked of him, even though he wasn't fully fit; Verheyen and Martens performed admirably, Teugels worked hard in attack. Baratelli was one of the French stars and though the purists wouldn't like the burly Adams he did an effective job. Marius Tresor, the highly skilled defender, did well despite being a shade off. The French were best served in midfield where Huck, Michel and Guillou worked well but seemed to tire late in the game.

Belgium (1) 2 (Martens, Van der Elst)
France (1) 1 (Coste) 50,000

Belgium: Piot; Van Binst, Bross, Vandendaele, Martens, Van Moer, Verheyen, Van Himst (Dockx), Van der Elst, Lambert, Teugels.
France: Baratelli; Jodar, Adams, Tresor, Bracci, Huck, Michel, Guillou, Coste, Lacombe (Callice), Bereta.

Luxembourg 2: Hungary 4

THE Hungarians clearly demonstrated their superior skill against little Luxembourg but were always threatened by the principality's twin strikers Braun and Dussier.

They were also surprised by the enthusiasm with which the Luxembourg squad, warmed up no doubt before the match by the tongue of manager Gilbert Legrand, never gave up.

Indeed it was Luxembourg who got off the mark first with a goal in the 14th minute. An intelligent move, involving four men, ended with a touch from Braun to Dussier, who slipped the ball past Meszaros.

Four minutes later Hungary drew level from a corner taken by Nagy. While the ball was half cleared, the Luxembourg defence hesitated and allowed Horvath ample time to pick his spot and shoot, 1-1.

On the half hour another Hungarian corner produced a goal for Nagy with the home side standing, expecting to hear the whistle for a foul on a Luxemburg defender—a whistle that never came.

Just before the break, Nico Braun was brought down inside the area. He took the

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LEAGUE TABLES

ARGENTINA
National Championship

Section A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boca Juniors	9	8	1	0	24	3	17
Rosario Central	9	6	2	1	17	4	14
Banfield	9	6	1	2	12	9	13
Estudiantes	9	5	1	3	11	8	11
Belgrano, Córdoba	9	3	2	4	15	12	8
Central Norte, Salta	9	3	2	4	9	11	8
All Boys	9	2	3	4	11	17	7
Sp. Desamparados	9	2	2	5	15	12	6
P. Com. B. Blanca	9	1	0	8	5	35	2

Section B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Talleres, Córdoba	9	6	3	0	12	5	15
A. Hornos Zap., Jujuy	9	4	3	2	15	12	11
Argentinos Juniors	9	4	3	2	15	12	11
River Plate	9	3	3	3	16	8	9
N. Old Boys	9	3	3	3	11	9	9
Gimnasia y Esgrima	9	2	3	4	11	14	7
Jorge Newbery, Junin	9	1	5	3	4	7	7
Colon de Santa Fe	9	2	1	6	7	11	5
Hur'c'n, S. Raf., Mza.	9	1	0	8	5	26	2

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Bonus Pts
Nimes	**11**	**6**	**1**	**4**	**22**	**14**	**3**	**16**
Reims	11	7	1	3	22	16	1	16
Bordeaux	11	7	1	3	19	13	0	15
St Etienne	11	6	1	4	17	10	1	14
Troyes	11	5	3	3	14	[illegible]	1	14
Bastia	11	5	4	2	16	11	0	14
Lyon	11	4	4	3	21	17	2	14
Lille	11	6	0	5	15	12	1	13
Strasbourg	11	4	4	3	12	14	1	13
Marseille	11	5	2	4	19	14	0	12
Nice	11	5	1	5	20	19	1	12
Lens	11	5	2	4	14	15	0	12
Rennes	11	4	4	3	12	13	0	12
Metz	11	4	2	5	15	16	1	11
Monaco	11	4	2	5	23	24	0	10
Nantes	11	4	2	5	15	19	0	10
St Germain	11	3	3	5	20	32	0	9
Sochaux	11	2	2	7	6	12	0	6
Red Star	11	1	3	7	11	21	0	5
Angers	11	1	2	8	11	24	1	5

SWEDEN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Malmo FF	**24**	**19**	**3**	**2**	**45**	**12**	**41**
AIK Stockholm	24	13	3	7	36	27	31
Oester	24	11	7	6	45	24	29
Atvidaberg	24	10	5	9	40	36	25
GAIS	24	10	5	9	36	40	25
Landskrona	24	10	4	10	38	27	24
Elfsborg	24	9	5	10	48	40	23
Djurgaarden	24	8	7	9	42	37	23
Orebro	24	8	7	9	49	43	23
Hammarby	24	9	5	10	34	37	23
Halmstad	24	7	8	9	25	34	22
Norrkoping	24	7	6	11	34	51	20
Sirius	24	4	7	13	28	51	15
Brynas	24	2	8	14	24	56	12

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Rapid Vienna	**10**	**7**	**2**	**1**	**25**	**5**	**16**
Austria Salzburg	10	4	5	1	14	11	13
VOEST Linz	10	5	1	4	14	10	11
Admira/Wacker	10	4	2	4	18	12	10
SW Innsbruck	10	5	0	5	13	14	10
Austria/WAC	10	4	2	4	14	16	10
Linz ASK	10	2	4	4	13	20	8
Sturm Graz	10	3	2	5	9	18	8
Aus. Klagenfurt	10	3	1	6	11	15	7
Eisenstadt	10	2	3	5	10	20	7

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Ujpest Dozsa	**8**	**7**	**1**	**0**	**25**	**8**	**15**
Honved	9	6	2	1	19	6	14
Ferencvaros	9	4	3	2	19	10	11
Zalaegerszeg	9	5	1	3	11	10	11
Videoton	9	3	3	3	11	11	9
Tatabanya	9	3	3	3	6	8	9
Csepel	9	3	2	4	13	13	8
Pecs	8	2	4	2	8	8	8
Bekescsaba	9	3	2	4	16	18	8
MTK Budapest	9	2	4	3	9	11	8
Diosgyor	9	3	2	4	16	19	8
Haladas	9	3	2	4	10	20	8
Vasas	9	3	1	5	11	14	7
Raba ETO	9	2	3	4	13	17	7
Salgotarjan	9	2	2	5	7	13	6
Egyeterles	9	1	3	5	9	17	5

USSR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Dynamo Kiev	**24**	**11**	**11**	**2**	**36**	**14**	**33**
Tscher. Odessa	24	10	9	5	32	25	29
Spartak Moscow	24	10	8	6	24	20	28
Torpedo Moscow	24	10	7	7	29	22	27
Dynamo Moscow	24	8	10	6	34	24	26
Schacht. Donezk	24	8	10	6	30	25	26
Ararat Erevan	23	9	7	7	28	20	25
Zenit Leningrad	24	6	13	5	27	33	25
Pach. Taschkent	24	8	8	8	37	36	24
Dnjepropetrovsk	24	7	9	8	22	28	23
Dynamo Tbilisi	24	5	11	8	18	28	21
Karpaty Lvov	23	5	10	8	23	25	20
CSKA Moscow	24	6	8	10	25	30	20
Kairat Alma Ata	24	6	8	10	32	39	20
Zarja Voroshil.	24	5	9	10	24	36	19
Nistru Kischinev	24	4	8	12	27	43	16

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Benfica	**6**	**4**	**2**	**0**	**16**	**3**	**10**
Vit. Guimaraes	6	5	0	1	19	6	10
Porto	6	4	2	0	10	6	10
Vitoria Setubal	6	3	2	1	10	8	8
Farense	6	3	1	2	11	7	7
Boavista	6	2	3	1	11	8	7
Sport, Lisbon	6	2	2	2	11	7	6
Uniao de Tomar	6	3	0	3	7	9	6
Espinho	6	3	0	3	6	13	6
Oldhanense	6	2	1	3	12	13	5
CUF Barreiro	6	2	1	3	7	8	5
Atletico	6	1	3	2	9	16	5
Belenenses	6	1	2	3	12	17	4
Oriental	6	1	1	4	4	11	3
Leixoes	6	0	2	4	3	8	2
Academico	6	1	0	5	4	12	2

DENMARK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
KB Copenhagen	**19**	**14**	**2**	**3**	**43**	**19**	**30**
B 1903	19	8	6	5	32	24	22
Vejle	19	9	3	7	40	30	21
Holbaek	19	8	4	7	29	27	20
Frem Copen.	19	9	2	8	32	33	20
Randers Freja	19	6	7	6	30	31	19
Koge	19	6	6	7	29	36	18
Naestved	19	6	5	8	33	34	17
B 1901 Nykobing	18	6	5	7	31	34	17
Slagelse	18	5	5	8	25	28	15
Aalborg	18	4	5	9	28	37	13
Hvidovre	18	4	4	10	22	41	12

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
AEK Athens	**2**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**7**	**1**	**4**
Ethnikos	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Olympiakos Pir.	2	2	0	0	3	1	4
Iraklis	2	1	1	0	6	1	3
Panathinaikos	2	1	1	0	3	1	3
Atromitos	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Kastoria	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Aigaleo	2	1	0	1	3	1	2
Panachaiki	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
Iannina	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Aris	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Kalamata	2	1	0	1	1	5	2
Kavala	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Larissa	2	0	1	1	1	5	1
PAOK	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Panionios	2	0	0	2	1	5	0
Olympiakos Vol.	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Panseraikos	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Levski Spartak	**8**	**5**	**1**	**2**	**19**	**11**	**11**
Lok. Plovdiv	8	5	1	2	20	14	11
Dunav Russe	8	5	1	2	12	9	11
Slavia Sofia	8	4	2	2	20	8	10
CSKA Sofia	8	4	1	3	14	9	9
Sliven	8	3	3	2	14	11	9
Tschernomore	8	3	3	2	11	11	9
Spartak Pleven	8	4	1	3	13	14	9
Akademik	8	3	2	3	10	12	8
Minjor Pernik	8	3	2	3	9	11	8
Botev Vratza	8	2	4	2	9	12	8
Lok. Sofia	8	3	1	4	11	13	7
Trakia Plovdiv	8	2	2	4	15	18	6
Etar Tirnovo	8	1	3	4	10	12	5
Jantra Gabrovo	8	1	3	4	9	15	5
Pirin Blagoev,	8	1	0	7	4	20	2

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
VSS Kosice	**9**	**5**	**1**	**3**	**23**	**13**	**11**
Duka Prague	8	4	2	2	12	8	10
Inter Bratislava	9	5	0	4	23	15	10
Slov. Bratislava	9	4	2	3	17	10	10
TZ Trinec	9	3	4	2	6	7	10
ZVL Zilina	9	4	2	3	12	14	10
Union Teplice	9	4	2	3	9	12	10
Slavia Prague	9	3	3	3	11	9	9
LIAZ Jablonec	9	4	1	4	9	10	9
Zbrojovka Brno	9	3	3	3	13	16	9
Spartak Trnava	9	3	3	3	9	12	9
AC Nitra	8	4	0	4	10	12	8
Banik Ostrava	8	3	1	4	9	9	7
Bohemians	9	2	3	4	10	13	7
Skoda Plzen	9	3	0	6	8	16	6
Sparta Prague	8	1	3	4	13	18	5

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Jeunesse D'Esch	**6**	**5**	**0**	**1**	**19**	**7**	**10**
Avenir Beggen	6	5	0	1	13	7	10
Rumelingen	6	3	2	1	14	6	8
Aris	6	3	1	2	12	6	7
Alliance	6	2	2	2	8	6	6
Etzella	6	2	2	2	6	8	6
RS Marl-Belair	6	2	2	2	5	9	6
Red Boys	6	1	3	2	6	13	5
Union Luxem.	6	1	2	3	8	10	4
Fola	6	2	0	4	10	18	4
Progres	5	1	0	4	5	9	2
Spora	5	1	0	4	6	13	2

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Ruch Chorzow	**8**	**6**	**1**	**1**	**18**	**4**	**13**
Wisla Krakow	8	4	4	0	11	4	12
Stal Mielec	8	4	3	1	7	4	11
Lech Poznan	8	4	3	1	8	7	11
Zag. Sosnowiec	8	3	3	2	9	7	9
Gwardia	8	3	3	2	7	5	9
ROW Rybnik	8	2	5	1	8	7	9
Gornik Zabrze	8	1	6	1	11	9	8
Pogon	8	3	2	3	4	5	8
GKS Tychy	8	2	3	3	8	10	7
Legia Warsaw	8	2	2	4	8	9	6
Arka Gdynia	8	1	4	3	8	12	6
Slask Wroclaw	8	2	2	4	6	11	6
Polonia	8	1	4	3	5	10	6
Szombierki	8	0	5	3	8	12	5
LKA Lodz	8	0	2	6	3	12	2

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Espanol	**4**	**3**	**1**	**0**	**7**	**2**	**7**
Real Madrid	4	3	1	0	5	2	7
Barcelona	4	3	0	1	13	5	6
Las Palmas	4	1	3	0	6	4	5
Real Zaragoza	4	2	1	1	5	5	5
Sporting Gijon	4	2	0	2	7	5	4
Real Betis	4	1	2	1	5	4	4
Salamanca	4	1	2	1	4	3	4
Murcia	4	1	2	1	5	5	4
Granada	4	1	2	1	2	2	4
Real Sociedad	4	2	0	2	5	8	4
Malaga	4	2	0	2	5	8	4
Atletico Madrid	4	1	1	2	1	2	3
Celta Vigo	4	1	1	2	2	4	3
Elche	4	1	1	2	4	7	3
Hercules	4	0	2	2	5	7	2
Valencia	4	1	0	3	7	10	2
Atletico Bilbao	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Anderlecht	**8**	**4**	**4**	**0**	**18**	**3**	**12**
RWD Molenbeek	8	4	4	0	16	8	12
Antwerp	9	5	1	3	12	8	11
Lierse	9	4	2	3	13	9	10
Beerschot	9	4	2	3	13	10	10
FC Malinois	9	4	2	3	10	8	10
Lokeren	9	4	2	3	18	19	10
CS Bruges	8	3	1	4	11	9	10
Ostende	8	3	3	2	12	9	9
Standard Liege	9	3	3	3	16	14	9
FC Liege	9	3	3	3	10	9	9
FC Bruges	8	3	3	2	8	8	9
Berchem	9	2	5	2	8	8	9
Charleroi	8	3	2	3	8	10	8
Beveren Waas	9	1	6	2	7	7	8
Beringen	8	3	1	4	7	12	7
Ol. Montignies	9	2	3	4	8	17	7
Waregem	9	1	5	3	7	9	7
Diest	8	0	4	4	4	15	4
Winterslag	9	0	1	8	5	19	1

NORWAY (Final table)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Viking	**22**	**11**	**9**	**2**	**31**	**10**	**31**
Molde	22	12	6	4	40	18	30
Valerengen	22	12	4	6	33	25	28
Brann	22	9	9	4	36	20	27
Stromgodset	22	11	5	6	38	28	27
Skeid	22	11	3	8	30	26	25
Start	22	9	6	7	37	31	24
Rosenborg	22	9	5	8	39	31	23
Mjondalen	22	7	3	12	29	37	17
Hamarkam	22	5	5	12	21	47	15
Sarpsborg	22	4	3	15	21	47	11
Raufoss	22	1	4	17	16	51	6

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Red Star Belgrade	**10**	**7**	**2**	**1**	**22**	**8**	**16**
Hajduk Split	10	7	1	2	21	11	15
Vojvodina	10	5	3	2	14	5	13
Sloboda	10	4	5	1	16	16	13
OFK Belgrade	10	5	1	4	17	13	11
Vardar	10	2	7	1	10	8	11
Radnicki Nis	10	3	5	2	8	11	11
Sarajevo	10	3	4	3	12	13	10
Zeljeznicar	10	3	3	4	16	14	9
Dinamo Zagreb	10	2	5	3	14	14	9
Olimpija	10	2	5	3	13	14	9
Rijeka	10	2	5	3	8	11	9
Kragujevac	10	3	3	4	5	11	9
Celik	10	4	0	6	8	13	8
Velez	10	3	1	6	16	13	7
Partizan	10	2	3	5	11	16	7
Proleter	10	2	3	5	9	18	7
Bor	10	2	2	6	7	18	6

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Eint. Frankfurt	**9**	**6**	**1**	**2**	**31**	**11**	**13**
Eintr. Brunswick	9	6	1	2	21	10	13
Hamburg	9	6	1	2	15	7	13
Kick. Offenbach	9	6	0	3	22	13	12
Schalke 04	9	6	0	3	15	6	12
MSV Duisburg	9	6	0	3	21	16	12
Bor. M'gladbach	9	5	1	3	21	13	11
Hertha	9	3	4	2	14	11	10
Fort. Dusseldorf	9	3	4	2	16	16	10
Bayern Munich	9	5	0	4	16	20	10
Bochum	9	4	1	4	12	14	9
Kaiserslautern	9	4	0	5	15	16	8
Rot-Weiss Essen	9	3	1	5	9	21	7
FC Cologne	9	2	2	5	17	20	6
Stuttgart	9	2	0	7	11	19	4
Tennis Borussia	9	2	0	7	12	25	4
Wuppertal	9	1	2	6	8	22	4
Werder Bremen	9	1	2	6	7	23	4

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Ipswich	**12**	**8**	**1**	**3**	**18**	**7**	**17**
Liverpool	12	8	1	3	20	8	17
Everton	12	4	7	1	17	14	15
Man. City	12	6	3	3	16	14	15
Derby	12	4	6	2	19	15	14
Stoke	12	5	4	3	18	15	14
Newcastle	11	5	4	2	19	16	14
Sheff. Utd.	12	5	4	3	18	19	14
Middlesbrough	11	5	3	3	14	10	13
Wolves	12	4	5	3	15	13	13
Burnley	12	6	1	5	22	21	13
West Ham	12	4	3	5	23	21	11
Coventry	12	3	5	4	14	19	11
Birmingham	12	4	2	6	16	20	10
Carlisle	12	4	2	6	8	11	10
Chelsea	12	3	4	5	12	19	10
Leeds	11	3	3	5	14	14	9
Q.P.R.	12	2	5	5	11	15	9
Leicester	11	2	4	5	13	18	8
Luton	12	1	6	5	12	19	8
Arsenal	11	2	3	6	11	16	7
Tottenham	11	3	0	8	13	19	6

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Zurich	**8**	**6**	**0**	**2**	**26**	**4**	**12**
Winterthur	9	4	4	1	23	14	12
Sion	9	4	4	1	12	6	12
Basel	8	3	5	0	18	9	11
Servette	8	5	1	2	18	9	11
Lausanne	9	2	7	0	11	7	11
Neuchatel	9	3	3	3	16	14	9
Grasshoppers	9	2	5	2	12	17	9
Lugano	8	2	3	3	10	13	7
Young Boys	9	2	3	4	19	18	7
Luzern	9	2	2	5	13	22	6
St Gallen	9	1	4	4	12	26	6
Chenois	9	1	4	4	11	27	6
Vevey	9	0	3	6	12	27	3

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
PSV Eindhoven	**6**	**6**	**0**	**0**	**22**	**6**	**12**
Ajax	6	6	0	0	16	4	12
Feyenoord	6	5	0	1	22	4	10
Roda JC	6	4	1	1	11	8	9
Twente	6	3	2	1	10	2	8
Den Haag	6	2	3	1	7	5	7
Telstar	6	2	2	2	6	8	6
De Graafschap	6	2	2	2	5	7	6
Amsterdam	6	1	3	2	7	7	5
Sparta	6	1	3	2	9	9	5
AZ 67	6	1	3	2	3	4	5
Excelsior	6	1	3	2	5	8	5
Wageningen	6	1	2	3	5	8	4
MVV Maastricht	6	1	2	3	6	10	4
Utrecht	6	1	2	3	5	15	4
Go Ahead	6	1	1	4	5	17	3
NAC Breda	6	0	2	4	6	15	2
Haarlem	6	0	1	5	4	17	1

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Fenerbahce	**6**	**5**	**1**	**0**	**14**	**4**	**11**
Galatasaray	6	4	2	0	8	1	10
Besiktas	6	4	2	0	8	2	10
Adanademirspor	6	3	2	1	8	4	8
Samsunspor	6	3	2	1	8	4	8
Adanaspor	6	3	1	2	9	5	7
Ankaragucu	6	2	3	1	10	9	7
Boluspor	6	2	2	2	3	5	6
Kayserispor	6	1	3	2	3	6	5
Trabsonspor	6	0	4	2	1	3	4
Goztepe	6	0	4	2	5	8	4
Altay Izmir	6	1	2	3	4	8	4
Giresunspor	6	1	2	3	5	10	4
Zonguldakspor	6	0	3	3	0	7	3
Eskisehirspor	5	0	2	3	1	5	2
Bursaspor	5	0	2	3	1	7	2

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Rangers	**7**	**6**	**1**	**0**	**23**	**7**	**13**
Celtic	7	6	0	1	21	9	12
Hibernian	7	5	1	1	19	7	11
Aberdeen	7	5	0	2	14	6	10
Dundee Utd.	7	4	1	2	15	6	9
Morton	7	3	2	2	9	8	8
St Johnstone	7	3	2	2	9	8	8
Airdrie	7	3	1	3	8	8	7
Kilmarnock	7	2	3	2	8	15	7
Dumbarton	7	2	2	3	11	10	6
Partick	7	3	0	4	15	18	6
Dundee	7	2	2	3	3	6	6
Clyde	7	2	1	4	8	11	5
Dunfermline	7	1	3	3	9	16	5
Arbroath	7	2	1	4	5	10	5
Motherwell	7	1	1	5	9	18	3
Ayr Utd.	7	1	1	5	9	19	3
Hearts	7	0	2	5	7	20	2

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Fiorentina	**2**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**4**
Lazio	2	2	0	0	4	2	4
Napoli	2	1	1	0	3	1	3
Sampdoria	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Torino	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Varese	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Inter	2	1	0	1	4	3	2
Cesena	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Juventus	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Bologna	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Milan	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Vicenza	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Roma	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Ascoli	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
Cagliari	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
Ternana	2	0	0	2	1	3	0

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kick himself to put the teams level at half time.

In the second half the home defenders committed basic errors that led to further goals and what had started so brightly for a minnow against a *prestigiono* opponent going through hard times ended up as expected with a 4-2 win for Hungary.

Luxembourg (2) 2 (Dussier 2, 1 pen.)
Hungary (2) 4 (Horvath, Nagy 2, Balint)
3,000

Luxembourg: Moes; Fendel, Fleghi, Hansen, De Grava, Philipp, Zwang, Trierweiler, Dussier, Braun, Langers.
Hungary: Meszaros; Torok, Harsanyi, Kancse, Balint, Horvath, Penzes, Toth, Kiss, Fuzekas, Nagy.

Holland 1: Switzerland 0

WITHOUT Cruyff to guide them—the release clause with CFB applies only to official matches—the Dutch meandered like a lost herd to a somewhat fortunate victory. Swiss goalkeeper Burgener played a big part in saving the day for his side. Sourbier returned to the team which beat Finland, while De Jong, the 'guest' stopper, was replaced by Wim Jansen, who in the second half gave way to Dick Schneider. Rene Notten, the FC Twente star coveted by Ajax, also made his debut but between the Feyenoord pair of Theo De Jong and Wim Van Hanegem failed to shine.

The Dutch attack of Ressel (Feyenoord) Geels (Ajax) and Rensenbrink (Anderlecht) looked like a powder puff compared with three years ago when the Ajax trio of Rep, Cruyff and Keizer were at their best.

Jakob (Kobi) Kuhn, in midfield for the Swiss, provided most of the skill but Botteron, another player on the wanted list of Ajax, was disappointing. In the end the result was decided in the 39th minute with a solitary goal by Ruud Geels but the crowd of less than 10,000 in Rotterdam had little to shout about.

Denmark 0 Rumania 0

AT home to Rumania in another European championship game, this was the Danes' last chance to make a real impact on the tournament. Without the services of Simonsen and Jensen — playing league football in Germany that day — they were short of finishing up front.

Two others of the Danes' "foreign legion", Benny Nielsen and Ulrik Le Fevre, both playing in Belgium were available however and for Denmark no one played better.

Denmark had most of the play for the first hour and should probably have two goals, perhaps three. Then they began to tire, having been thwarted by Raducanu in the Rumanian goal and Dinu. In the final 30 minutes Mircea Lucescu led a Rumanian comeback, and though the Danes could count themselves unfortunate not to have won, a draw was probably the most fitting result.

Denmark (0) 0
Rumania (0) 0
15,700

Denmark: Larsen; Mortensen, Munk Jensen, Danielsen, Rasmussen, John Olsen, Le Fevre, Jorgensen, Nielsen, Lund, Holmstrom.
Romania: Raducanu; Cheran, Antonescu, Satmareanu, Anghelini, Dinu, Nunweiler IV, Kun, Jordanescu, Kun, Lucescu (Troi).

Bulgaria 3 Greece 3

FOR several years now the Bulgarians have had the greatest difficulties on the wings and in the centre of their attack. Their approach play, motivated by the skilful genius of Christo Bonev, creates promising situations but somehow the ball does not go into the back of the net too often.

However, centre-forward Georgi Denev rose to the occasion and had what was probably his best ever game for Bulgaria, scoring two goals in three minutes just before the half-hour. Before Denev found the net Bonev had put Bulgaria ahead with a goal in the very first minute and it looked at last as if the Bulgarians were going to have a good win.

The big Greek centre-forward Antoniadis headed a goal between Denev's pair but at the break it remained 3-1 for the home side. Though play was even and the Bulgarians defended strongly it was their defence, not their attack, that finally let themselves down in this game. In the last four minutes Papaioanu (86th minute) and stopper Glezos up for a corner 88th minute) each scored goals to rob Bulgaria of the extra point.

Bulgaria (3) 3 (Bonev, Denev 2)
Greece (1) 3 (Antoniadis, Papaioannou, Glezos)
35,000

Bulgaria: Jordanov; Zafirov, Penev, Dimitrov, Kolev, Borisov, Voinov, Bonev, Sokolov, Denev, Tzvetkov.
Greece: Ikonomopoulos; Palas, Iosifidis, Firos, Glezos, Tersanidis, Kritikopoulos, Antoniadis, Dalkaris, Papaioannou.

Argentina 1 Spain 1

"ARGENTINA and Spain are brothers in mediocrity," said one Buenos Aires football writer after this match to celebrate Spanish-Argentine friendship for the "Copa de la Hispanidad". The two sides, strangely considering their long good relations, have met only six times — Spain winning twice and Argentina winning the other four with four goals to Spain and six to Argentina.

This match did little to add to the prestige of either side though it is true that Spain created more goal-scoring chances — but didn't take them. According to one neutral critic, the Spaniards worked harder and played better as a team, while the Argentinians had better individual technique. However, it was generally agreed that it had not been a good game.

A bad game but a good result for Spain would probably sum it up for the Spaniards and Ladislav Kubala whose job as selector-coach has been in jeopardy since they lost their World Cup play-off game against Yugoslavia.

Pirri and Claramunt were the pick of the Spanish outfield players while Iribar in goal had his usual dependable game. Fifty-thousand spectators at the River Plate stadium followed the game with little to excite them or separate the two sides until the last ten minutes when goals brought the game alive. With nine minutes left Pirri moved upfield menacingly and scored a fine goal — but a minute later Rogel responded with a header and that was how it remained.

Argentina (0) 1 (Rogel)
Spain (0) 1 (Pirri)
70,000

Argentina: Sanchez; Perma, Paolino, Rogel, Carrascosa, Brindisi (Trobiani), Russo, Babington (Pronzato), Houseman, Di Meola, Ferraro.
Spain: Iribar; Sol, Benito, Capellanos, Quini (Villar), Capon, Benitez (Garcia Soriano), Claramunt, Pirri, Iturcta, Churruca.

Czechoslovakia 4 Sweden 0

SWEDEN'S pulling power in a stadium that can hold 50,000 was a mere 10,000 and seeing the Swedish team one must say that Czech fans are not bad judges.

Full of home-based players, some young enough to be possibles for the 1982 World Cup, some too old for the next one, and one or two really past it, the Swedish manager Georg Ericsson cannot really be blamed for after every professional club in Western Europe had taken their pick after the World Cup in Germany there wasn't much left.

However, the Czechs took their time about taking Sweden to the cleaners, presumably hoping that the England manager (sitting in the stand) would be impressed. After 14 minutes right-winger Marian Masny went away to cross just right for Jan Svehlik to open the scoring and after more sparring Masny himself accepted a chance set up by Pavel Stratil to score with his wrong (left) foot. By half-time it was all over, for five minutes before the break right-back Karol Dobias had interpassed several times with Masny to let Svehlik in again for his second goal on his club ground.

The second half was even more leisurely, a peaceful afternoon disturbed only when Masny again intervened to provide the chance for Premysl Bicovsky to score with a header. Clearly Masny will come to Wembley, a very welcome right-winger, but it is doubtful if many of the others who started this game including Joszef Adamec the veteran who was allowed on for the first two minutes in his home-town though he now plays for Spartak Trnava. He had a tremendous shot in his left ... once!

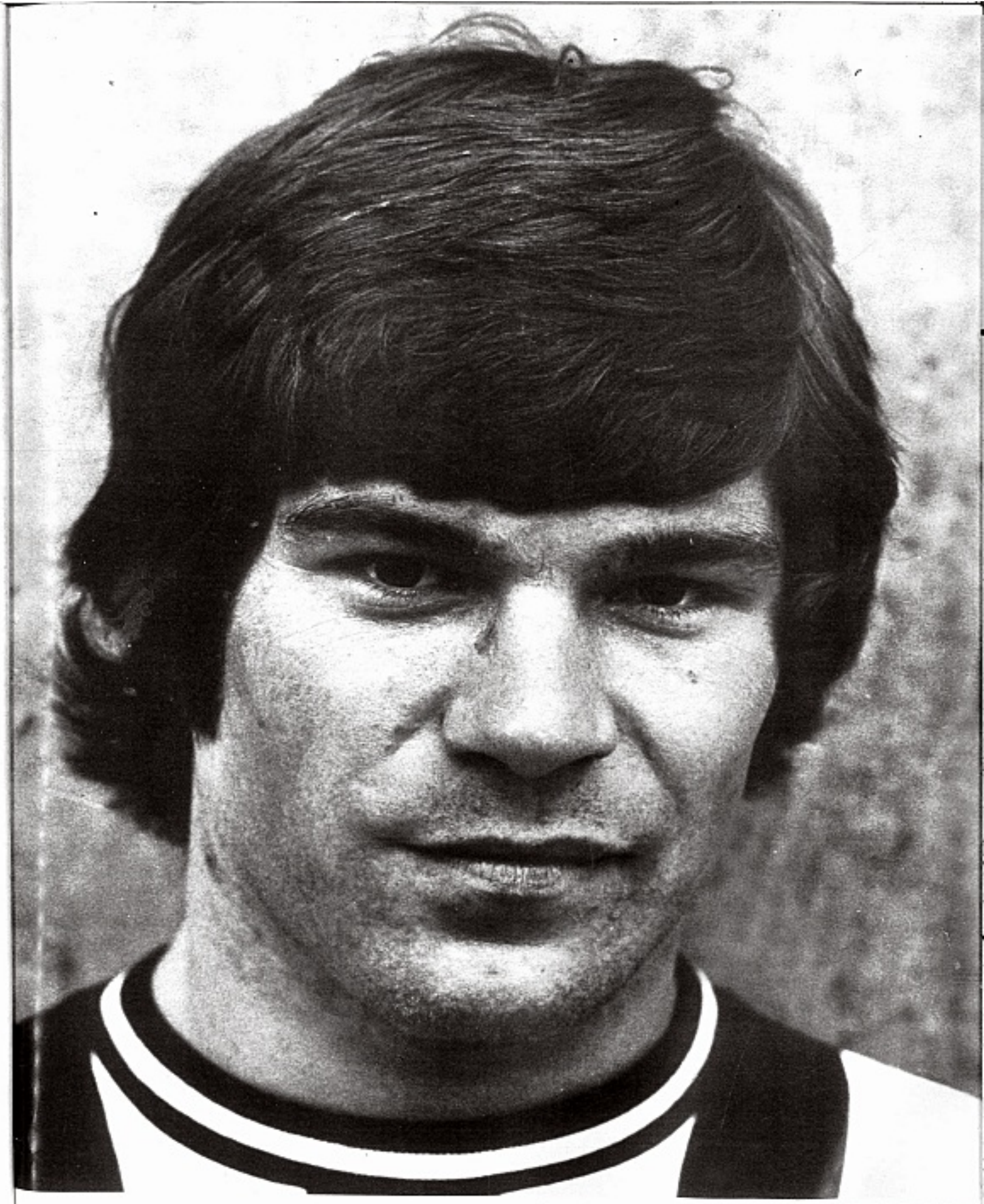
Czechoslovakia (3) 4 (Svehlik 2, Masny, Bicovsky)
Sweden (0) 0
30,000

Czechoslovakia: Venceel (Viktor), Dobias, Cefkovic, Ondrus, Varadin, Bicovsky, Pekarik, Gajdusek, Masny, Svehlik (Rygall), Stratil.
Sweden: Gustafsson; Roland Andersson, Karlsson, Lindman, Bjorn Andersson, Kinvall, Ljungberg, Almqvist, Leback, Mordahl, Mattsson.

● Continued from page 8

CSKA Sofia 0
Dynamo Kiev 1 (Blokhin)
Sion 1 (Suiza)
Malmo 0
Bologna 2 (Savoldi 2)
Gwardia 1 (Terlecki)
Carl Zeiss Jena 1 (Stein)
Slavia Prague 0
Austria/WAC 4 (Pirkner 2, Weigel, Fiala)
Waregem 1 (Koudijzer)
Red Star Belgrade 2 (Petrovic, Savic)
PAOK 0
Ards 1 (Guy)
PSV Eindhoven 4 (Van der Kuylen, Edstrom, Dahlqvist 2)
Real Madrid 6 (Pirri 2, Santillana, Netzer, Macanas, Aquilar)
Fram Reykjavik 0

Continued next month



MALCOLM MacDONALD Newcastle United

World SOCCER

STEFAN STAYKOV Bulgaria